

| ID | Start time | Please enter your comment below: |
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| 1 | 10/5/20 7:53:08 | In the beginning of this school year a questionnaire was sent out asking how you would choose to have your children attend school. I chose virtually for the entire year for a reason. To protect my children and other children from getting sick. I intend to keep it that way. Our own president contracted this virus. Why would we not keep schools closed or have the option to choose how you feel safe learning. My daughter who are social butterflies and great students are afraid to go back this year and are doing well in their classes thus far so there should be an option for students to continue learning virtually correct? As the in person learning is not viable for my family and so many others. |
| 2 | 10/5/20 8:26:36 | Hello MVUSD Board of Education, Please reopen our schools this month for all elementary, middle, and high schools students who want to return. I think you will find that the majority of families would still prefer the traditional model option for learning. Our students want and need to be back in the classroom. They also should continue to have live interaction with their teachers if there are days they can not attend in person. Let's not let a whole year go by with our children learning remotely from home. The teachers, administrators, and staff are doing an outstanding job, but please give the families who want to be back in school a chance to do so now! |
| 3 | 10/5/20 12:43:46 | While distance learning may be an effective method of instruction for some students, for many others, it falls short. Students who need more guidance, attention, and instruction from their teachers are not getting it from their computer screen. Those who have difficulty focusing in a traditional classroom setting are destined to fail under the current distance learning model. These students are being left behind, and the school district is doing irreparable harm to them scholastically, as well as their emotional, and physical being. It is unacceptable to allow this to continue any further. Additionally, those with IEPs or 504s are likely suffering at an even greater rate. Covid-19 does not negate the district's responsibility to fulfill these contracts. Our students lost a significant portion of learning last year, and this year isn't looking much better in our experience. This needs to end. Now. Any faculty or staff that are unwilling to fulfill their duties without a medical waiver from their healthcare provider should be reassigned or let go. Anything less than this is a disservice to the students, the parents, the community, and the entire educational system. I would argue any negative fallout from union negotiations would be a distant second compared to negative impact distance learning has had, and will continue to have on our children. I've been laid off for months. I'm well rested and more than happy to fill in where others refuse. This includes those on the school board who are reluctant to fulfill their obligations. I can start tomorrow. Take a stand. Be a part of the solution- not the problem! Our children need full-time, in-person education, and they need it now. Respectfully, |
| 4 | 10/5/20 20:54:12 | Hello, I my name is [REDACTED] and I teach Kindergarten at [REDACTED]. I have a few concerns about reopening schools during this pandemic. I just heard that mask wearing for TK-2nd grades would be optional. That is really alarming! I watch many kids daily with their hands/thumbs in their mouths, picking their nose and eating it, and a lot of chewing on things. There is saliva spewing from their little mouths. This could put so many teachers, staff, and other children at a higher risk because their germs will be everywhere. Kindergarten is usually a germ infested place but I never feared for my life until now. I think that mask wearing will be a key issue for parents when deciding to go in person or virtual so I think parents should know about a mask policy before they choose. Another concern I have is that TK/K students can not handle sitting in class for almost 3 hours without a true snack/recess period and structured indoor play. The kids won't be allowed to play in the play kitchen, sit on the carpet with tubs, or move around for transitions. It's unrealistic to think that a 5 year old will sit at their table for that long. This is not a well thought out plan for students this age. Also, what is the plan for teachers using the restroom? Many of us are older with old bladders. That's a long stretch for us. I am also concerned about teachers possibly not being able to return to their current position if they have to do virtual teaching due to underlying health conditions. I appreciate your input and consideration in these matters. Thank you, [REDACTED] |
| 5 | 10/6/20 6:45:16 | My concern is, we will be starting back to school during flu season and the holidays. Flu symptoms line right up with COVID symptoms. So a common flu can be misdiagnosed as Covid. Forcing classrooms and or school shutdowns. Starting school a week before Thanksgiving break seems pointless. For the kids to attend 1 week of school before a break, will only cause unneeded stress for kids, teachers and parents. Then, to have them return for only 3 weeks before a winter break? Seems pointless. The kinks will hardly be worked out. What not begin 2nd semester? |

Dear Sir or Ma'am,

I'm sure you're inundated with emails, calls, text messages, meetings, etc. about this topic. I know everyone is trying their best, but I can't help but ask with respect, PLEASE, open our schools.

Yesterday I wrote to the principal of our school. It was just barely 8:45 in the morning when I started writing. At that time, I had just heard the second "conversation" about paying attention, getting work assigned done, and being respectful to the teachers, as well as your parents of the day. As I write this at just after 9:30 am, one of children is rushing to his room in tears as he just doesn't understand why he's in trouble for not completing something that he thinks he didn't have to do.

All three of our kids are at Thompson Middle School (GO TIMBERWOLVES!). We are blessed to have a 13 year old 8th grader, and 11 year old boy/girl twins in 6th grade. It is unfortunate but our kids "get bored" and keep wandering onto video games, YouTube, and other websites while they're "in class." They're not receiving a quality education in this medium. Of course, I do not blame any of the teachers. Most of them are looking at black boxes with names on their screens. It has a lot to do with our parenting, and our availability to "bird dog" what the kids are doing.

One of our twins is on the autism spectrum. He is high functioning, but has issues in the social realm. When we transferred from a small private school to public two years ago, we were fearful that he would get "lost in the sauce." I can't tell you how wrong we were and how incredible the teachers, staff, and administrators at Murrieta Elementary were. His growth was amazing! Unfortunately, since the lockdown and transition to online school, I have seen a regression in his social skills.

We're basically the perfect dynamic for this type of online curriculum. My wife is a Stay at Home Mom, has a bachelors degree in Business Accounting from University of Phoenix (although, never has used it). I only have an Associates Degree, but as a US Navy Veteran, I was formally trained as an Electronics Technician. Even before the pandemic I worked for the most part remotely from home. The point I'm trying to make is that our education level or at home scenario doesn't make this any easier for us. Trying to be a 6th and 8th grade teacher is not a skill set my wife or I have. To be honest, I can't imagine how this works out in single parent or dual full time parent homes.

It is important to recognize that there are families that just don't feel comfortable sending their children back to a public in-person setting. I completely understand the reluctance as friends of ours have a 13 year old son in the hospital fighting for his life with heart issues. His brother has to stay home because they can't risk a COVID infection. That family is making due with the best they can and of course, we're supporting them as we can.

The technology is already in place and being utilized in order to continue to support those who need to remain in a remote capacity. It may not be as flashy, smooth, or professional as there of course is a learning curve. I totally believe any reasonable parent would meet that challenge with grace.

In closing, I want to thank each of you who read or listened to this letter. I know your jobs are not easy, and seemingly I'm sure it will feel like someone will have an issue with whatever your decision is. I humbly, and respectfully ask and urge you to open our schools as soon as possible. If our kids need to wear masks, fine. If they need to be social distanced, fine (but good luck!). I can't tell you the value of IN PERSON Instruction and Socialization that our particular kids need. It directly contributes to not only their mental health, but that of the parents as well. Please employ whatever absolutely necessary protections are required, and OPEN OUR SCHOOLS. Respectfully, [REDACTED],

Parent/Taxpayer, Murrieta, CA

As an employee of Murrieta Valley Unified School District, I do have many concerns about the proposed plan for elementary students. I work as classroom support to a Mild/ Moderate Special Day Class, and many of our students will have difficulty maintaining social distancing. The plexiglass shields for tables and desks would not be effective for our students who have difficulty in staying at their seats. For those students with behavioral challenges, such as repeatedly leaving the classroom, there will be times staff would need to close the 6 foot distance in order to keep the student safe. This is very concerning.

At the elementary level, many student, not just those with special needs ,need assistance/ supervision at arrival and dismissal. I am concerned that with parents not being allowed on campus to facilitate this we will not have enough staff to accomplish this in a timely manner between sessions.

Other concerns I have as an employee are:

- *where will staff break for lunch while classrooms are being disinfected?
- *who will be performing the disinfecting in the classrooms?
- *how will staff prep materials for the pm session of students when the room needs to be cleaned?
- *how safe will it be for students and staff to be in a room that has just been sprayed with disinfecting chemicals?

As a parent of a high school student, I am concerned that my child's schedule will have to radically change and she will likely have different teachers. She is enthusiastic about her subjects and likes all her teachers. I'm afraid a dramatic change may set her back .

Other questions I have concerning the in person learning plan for the secondary level are:

- *where will the students eat lunch on the campus and still be able to socially distance?
- *who will monitor that students comply with maintaining social distance and using masks?
- *with locker rooms closed how will student athletes change to take part in athletic conditioning?

In short, I oppose the plan for elementary to return to in person instruction by November 16. More time is needed to work out these important details.

As a parent of our school district for the last last 16 years, and employee for the last 10 years, I trust that the safety of our students and staff will be held in the highest level by the Board in this difficult decision. Thank you for diligence and care during such a difficult time for our community.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

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10/6/20 9:32:55

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10/6/20 12:52:28

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| 8 | 10/6/20 13:38:37 | <p>It seems hasty to me to put young students back in the classroom when a) we just came off the purple tier in our county and have yet to see how this will play out in our community, b) there has been a confirmed case of COVID at our school and there are hardly any bodies there right now! c) we do not have all of our PPE in place (also TK-2 not required to wear masks and parents are doing their own temp checks!?!) And d) we'd be going back to school for one week, have a week off for Thanksgiving, then go back for 3 weeks before Christmas break. This is a very unsettled time of year in the classroom without the added pressures of COVID.</p> <p>It feels like Elementary is being used as Guinea pigs for going back. I personally think we should wait until January like middle and high school.</p> |
| 9 | 10/6/20 13:48:44 | <p>We have not been given a clear answer regarding the ability of the district to keep our teachers and staff safe in this pandemic. We have received answers of, "Well we will have to see how it goes." Or, "Everyone will be safe because students will wash their hands." If my safety and the safety of my entire team is predicated on the idea that 4-11 year-olds will follow rules and procedures without fail, then I fear for my life in their hands. I also fear for the lives of my children and family who will also be impacted. Until there is a clear-cut and SANE strategy going forward, I do not see how we can be expected to go back into the classroom.</p> |
| 10 | 10/6/20 21:26:50 | <p>I am a working mom of 8 year old twins. My daughter is in general education & my son is in special education. This virtual learning is so terrible for children, my kids cry & beg to go back to normal school. This virtual learning has been so detrimental to my children's learning & mental health. I'm a working mom & very busy working!! I don't have time to help my kids constantly with lost papers, logging into all the different programs & "independent work". My kids cry everyday so sad & frustrated. Honestly I cry with them!!! So disappointing!! Please keep kids best interest in mind!! They are loosing so much!! Please I'm begging you open up schools!!! The mental health is the most important Issue right now!!</p> |
| 11 | 10/6/20 21:35:21 | <p>Our son attends Murrieta Valley HS. We have moved to this school last year. As a cancer survivor, as a family with other children in college traveling out of state , and owning a business, it has been extremely isolating for our child with limited sports, extracurricular activities, classes. We've had some WiFi issues causing so much stress and anxiety since I am also working out of the home. We are trying our best but we do not understand why a January time frame will better? Why not now ? It's been months since these kids have been in school - we had taken the survey to pot to go back full time. Please consider the emotional, anxiety and motivational loss that we need to consider for our child as well as other children. We have so any questions about college, recruitment, testing , how 3 hours of virtual classes will be beneficial bc they are not?? Please respond to us at [REDACTED]</p> |
| 12 | 10/6/20 22:07:41 | <p>I would support the kids going back to school. I have 4 children. They really need to go back. Thank you</p> |
| 13 | 10/6/20 22:13:17 | <p>Please allow our children back in classrooms. My two children are suffering immensely by virtual learning. Constant internet and log in issues, loads and loads of work with constant unreasonable deadlines, and no social interaction. Both myself and my husband work full time and can't be at home to help our kids! We are not qualified teachers and our kids want to be back in the classrooms. Thank you!</p> |
| 14 | 10/6/20 22:28:58 | <p>I am a mother of an 8th grader and 10th grader. I support students returning to onsite classrooms in some capacity, even if masks are required. Parents and students should have the choice to have students return to school. Online options should remain available to students who are not comfortable learning onsite.</p> |
| 15 | 10/6/20 22:23:19 | <p>This has gone on so long, kids need to return to traditional setting. I dont believe they are gaining much in trade for what they have lost over the months. Social kids that want to interact with teacher and friends. Its hurting them so much</p> |
| 16 | 10/6/20 22:24:06 | <p>I am supporting the motion to send our kids back to school in full Traditional style. No masks, lunchtime with their friends and class time with their Teachers. My 7th grader is failing classes for the first time in her school career. This has been devastating on her mental health. I know she is not the only one. Think of our children, who are our future generation. They NEED to be back in school for their mental health. The flu spreads through our schools like wildfire every season and we don't shut them all down. I saw and listened to MVUSD's presentation to the board before the Governor shut all our schools down and I believe MVUSD has an amazing plan in place to be able to get our kids back to Traditional style, safely. Thank you.</p> |
| 17 | 10/6/20 22:33:44 | <p>PLEASE OPEN OUR SCHOOL! My son is SUFFERING AND FAILING! He can't teach himself!! please!!</p> |
| 18 | 10/6/20 22:52:37 | <p>Our kids need to be back in school full time. I have a child with an IEP at MVHS who normally is a B student and is failing every class. He needs a structured learning environment with physical instruction. He is at an age where grades make or break future opportunities and for kids like him who have to try extra hard this set up is catastrophic. The daily breakdowns are causing a huge disruption in our home. I feel like we as a district have accepted their will be an acceptable level of casualty for kids like my son which</p> |
| 19 | 10/7/20 0:20:22 | <p>My son just started school, he is currently in TK and is taking speech. This zoom classroom sitting isn't work because a child his age needs the social interactions with his peers. Not to mention he is only able to attend speech once a week due to conflicts with the scheduled..... Im worried that my son is going to fall behind. I fine it completely ridiculous that casinos and other vacation spots can be open but not our schools.....</p> |

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| 20 | 10/7/20 0:15:46 | <p>I have been a Murrieta resident for eleven years. We are a military family and moved to Murrieta to raise our kids in this excellent community and schools. Schools have been shut down since spring 2020 and enough is enough. My kids deserve the quality education that we moved here to get. The online learning environment is not suitable for my kids high school learning and frankly cheats them out of a quality education. It is very disheartening to see so many establishments open, filled with families, but yet our schools continue to remain closed. With the proper safeguards in place we should be open to educate our kids. At this point, I'm good with a hybrid of online and in person classes as a starting point. I know I can't speak for everyone. Yet, parents should be given a choice on this. Everyone of you on our school board has the ability to make this happen. I'm not okay with classes still being taught online and at the moment disappointed with our school district. The covid-19 numbers are declining. Riverside county is a huge area and the Murrieta community is lumped in those numbers. We don't have high numbers in our area! Please, we need to take a step forward in getting back to the quality education our kids need and deserve! Yes keeping our kids safe should be a top priority but that also include their MENTAL HEALTH. Please resume back to school in person learning for our high school students!</p> <p>Thank you,</p> |
| 21 | 10/7/20 7:12:35 | <p>I have four children and all four are struggling with online school. Is there anyway we can apply for a waiver so that our children and return to Elementry and middle school? I feel like they are falling behind and I'm afraid that they are not receiving the same education that other children are in other parts of our country who are able to return to school campuses.</p> |
| 22 | 10/7/20 8:00:38 | <p>I appreciate your consideration for all involved. Although this has been a challenging time, I have to say the teachers and administrators at MVHS have been incredible and truly stepped up this semester. Please do what is right, based on scientific findings. We need to safeguard the community and the children. Should reopening occur, I ask for a hybrid option for our students. Thank you for your time.</p> |
| 23 | 10/7/20 8:06:05 | <p>Our children must go back to elementary school full time now. There is no reason for the delay and we need to put our kids first. They must be able to learn, socialize and play on the playgrounds with classmates and have lunch together. Check out how Cypress schools have opened up safely- only an hour away!!!!</p> |
| 24 | 10/7/20 8:06:46 | <p>I am a working mom of 6 children. Having all my children home has severely disrupted our household. First off, I have had to quit my job. The financial burden that this has caused is immense. I have a 10th grader with Down Syndrome and this platform of learning is not meeting any of her needs at all. It's heartbreaking to see. All my other kids have now grown to hate school completely. Mornings are rough. I am full time technical support! Two of my kids can't even read, so I can't leave their side the entire time they are in live instruction! Not to mention the amount of technical glitches they all experience in one day! I'm about ready to throw in the towel. I've started to go back to work one day a week and I see that gradually increasing. This means that my kids will be left to figure all this out on their own, or not so anything at all. School needs to resume at normal capacity ASAP! Our children are suffering and paying a huge price for everyone's fear!</p> |
| 25 | 10/7/20 8:26:07 | <p>Please open our schools!! Our Children are suffering, their mental health should come first. My oldest has an IEP and with speech and RSP plus her regular class she is on the computer all day. She is already behind and being away from her teachers is not helping.</p> |
| 26 | 10/7/20 8:22:27 | <p>Our kid's futures are at stake! This virtual way of learning is not working. Grades are drastically declining. Mental health is a huge concern. My child has always been a straight A student and is now making mostly B's. He is extremely discouraged by this because he knows his future with college admissions in the next two years is riding on his current grades. His mental health is declining rapidly and I will not allow this to continue! This virtual way of schooling has gone on way too long and is detrimental to my child's, as well as every other child's future!! GET OUR KIDS BACK IN THE CLASSROOM!!! If some teachers and parents are to scared to be in the classroom or send their child to school, then allow them to continue with virtual school. But for the rest of us, the majority want to be back. There is absolutely no reason they should not be going back to school physically.</p> |
| 27 | 10/7/20 8:33:51 | <p>We need to open the schools. These kids have suffered enough. My children personal are suffering mentally and are not being given the best chance to thrive academically. My third grader cry's almost daily and has become very angry. He needs to see his teacher and talk with friends and have someone else work with him when he's struggling with a new lesson. He struggles with writing and it is very hard to work with an 8 year old over a computer when teaching writing. They don't ask questions, and the teachers can't visual see what they are doing. The teachers are doing the best they can but they can't teach to their full potential over a computer screen. My first grader is getting bored and some days struggles to focus, her teacher is doing the best she can to challenge her but over a computer screen you can only do so much. She is 6 and spends most her day at a computer, that's not okay. When does the children mental health begin to matter? When does our children's academics begin to matter? We need to open the school back to normal and give these kids the education they deserve.</p> |
| 28 | 10/7/20 8:33:16 | <p>I have a child with a variety of medical issues as well as disability. His doctor has already indicated that he will not be able to safely return to a campus when schools re-open (at least for the remainder of this school year). Will the virtual model continue to be available once students return? Also, if so will he continue to have the same teachers providing instruction? As a student with disabilities that impact his learning it would be very disruptive to his education to switch teachers if some teachers remain full-time virtual and some teachers return to campus (full-time or hybrid).</p> |

In matter of two months I've seen my students go from making great grades with high GPAs to failing. My honor student in the 10th grade, has never gotten F's the entire time in school. He has always gotten straight A's from elementary onto highschool.... until now, he is failing most of his classes. This is not normal for my student. Online schooling isn't for everyone.. and the long term affect is far worse on our children then the short term. My elementary student is at the beginning of learning the basic skills of math and reading. I can tell you, from personal experience, this will affect elementary students, worse in the long run by missing basic steps. The longer they are out the harder it will be to catch up. My children suffer from headaches from staring at the screen for hours a day and mild depression, due from separation from peers and school activities. The beginning years of school, are very crucial in social development and learning basic skills in math and reading. Please don't let this affect our children anymore. Please let our children return to campus where they will get more hands on help from teachers.

29 10/7/20 10:24:00

My high school student is severely struggling with virtual learning. He went from all A'S and B'S to D and F grades. It has become a stressful family situation with a lot of arguing and meltdowns. I support returning to in person learning as soon as possible.

30 10/7/20 11:47:26

My daughter is a junior at Murrieta Valley High School. We support in person school to restart now. With regards to COVID there has been a recent news report that no new cases have been attributed to school reopening in other Counties in California. ("California Sees No Link From School Openings to Virus Spread". October 6, 2020. Associated Press) With regards to socialization and mental health we feel that it is extremely important for our children to return to school now. My daughter is academically doing well however, she is extremely frustrated, bored, and finding it very hard to stay motivated in her studies. I don't think she will be able to keep this up much longer. We also feel that a new survey should have already taken place before this meeting in order to gauge where parents stand as of recently. Please open schools for in person learning now! Thank you,

31 10/7/20 11:53:29

Time to reopen our schools!

32 10/7/20 15:03:13

Please open our schools back up for our children. Look at the Science and stop letting fear get in the way. Our children need to return to school for their mental health for most. Closing schools, wearing masks and keeping the children "locked down" is absolutely absurd. Let's use common sense and open the schools!!

33 10/7/20 15:25:14

Dear Board Members,
I have read the district's plan for returning to school. As a parent in this district since 2005, I cannot sit back any longer and accept the current plan without appealing to all of you. I feel very strongly that the district needs to reconsider the needs of its students and families. Distance learning is not working for the vast majority of students. The statistics show that they are disengaged, disinterested and not learning much at all. The mental health toll is alarming and rarely addressed by the media. When I asked my son how he felt after the first few weeks, his response was " I am learning how to log in, follow directions, do work online and submit it." (This is no fault of the teachers, many of whom are working hard to create some semblance of "normal" learning for their students, but they cannot replicate a classroom.) Students are isolated and separated from the classroom, friends, social interaction, sports and activities, all in the name of safety, when the data we have since March indicates they are at very low risk. The concern back in the spring about students being super spreaders was not accurate. It seems that this district is adopting a policy to wait for zero risk game to return to school, which is being influenced by the county and the state. I think we all can agree there will never be zero risk in schools or daily life, whether it be due to Covid or anything else. This culture of safety-ism and waiting for a zero risk scenario is failing our kids! I would like to see solutions from this district for getting students back to class, in the same way private businesses have had to pivot to stay operational. Other states and counties are finding solutions, allowing sports and activities to resume, and there has NOT been a huge uptick in cases or outbreaks for those reopening, as noted yesterday by the California Health Secretary on Coronavirus: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/753221112080194/permalink/839961626739475/>
The CDC has gone on record that students need to return to the classroom as soon as possible, along with countless doctors and health advocates. Public districts in neighboring California counties, and private schools in Riverside county are creating solutions for their students to return in person now. Who is advocating for the well being of the students here in Murrieta by finding a path to bring them back into the classroom? How many at risk students are already falling through the cracks without the oversight and support provided by attending school? How will these students ever catch up, and what is the district's plan to close the learning gap that is now at the 7 month mark? How does transportation work for a two parent household for a hybrid programs? Can students be brought back into class with those teachers who are willing to teach in person, while allowing other teachers to work remotely and protecting those who are more vulnerable? Surely these questions and countless others have been considered by the board and this district? The implications of the decisions made by this district will have repercussions for its students for many years to come. SCHOOLS ARE ESSENTIAL for reasons too numerous to mention. I urge you to put students first, reconsider your reopening plan, manage risk, and allow for a return to school for all students as soon as possible. Thank you for your time.

34 10/7/20 15:46:07

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| 35 | 10/7/20 16:20:39 | Please open up schools. Let the parents decide on whether their children should go or not. Give the options for school full-time onsite, hybrid or completely at home to the parents. |
| 36 | 10/7/20 16:16:38 | Please consider children of all ages to return to school in-person immediately. Children's academic, social, emotional, and physiological health and well being is in danger when continuing with doing school at home. I have two children who are both miserable and depressed causing mental health and physical health issues due to the children's heavy load doing school independently at home. While virtual learning is a much smoother plan using Canvas than distance learning as we all experienced in Spring; the children are suffering the most and need to return in person to school immediately! As a two parent working family, we are begging you- for our children's sake. Thank you. |
| 37 | 10/7/20 16:46:56 | We need the schools open. We have 3 children that are struggling with getting an education. They are sad and depressed from the lack of human interaction. We as parents are tired of this lock down! |
| 38 | 10/7/20 16:48:54 | Good morning, my purpose for this comment is to reach out in support of our school District going back to IN PERSON SCHOOL! I can not stress enough the toll it is taking on my 11th grader. His Academic, and social well being is suffering while he is doing the best he can with the zoom model. He is taking AP classes that require IN PERSON TEACING and learning. My son who has ALWAYS had As in his classes is struggling to Get a C in one of his classes and it breaks my heart that he has worked soo hard his entire school experience and is frustrated with what is hapoening his Jr year. He is also an athlete and misses playing football and golf! Two sports he is passionate about and that give him drive and focus! It is getting harder and harder to keep his spirits up! I hope the districts hears our plea!! WE ARE ALLOWED TO OPEN UP! Let's Do it!!! |
| 39 | 10/7/20 18:04:47 | My child's mental health is deteriorating. There is no supervision at home during school hours due to both parents working full time. He is struggling with online learning, grades are being affected, and no social interaction with peers is taking its toll. It's time for our kids to go back to on campus learning. |
| 40 | 10/7/20 18:01:53 | As a parent and a staff member, due to the current numbers, I strongly oppose students returning to school at the secondary level. Students have just worked out their technological issues and learned how their teachers and classes operate. While virtual learning is not the ideal situation for all students, I do believe that a return to live school right now would be a huge disruption for ALL students across the board. I feel that it would be far worse to return to school - with all of the adjustments and changes that would need to be made - only to need to quarantine and virtual learn again as the inevitable Covid cases begin to spread on campus. I remain hopeful that secondary students would be able to return to campus in the spring semester. |
| 41 | 10/7/20 19:19:13 | My kids are suffering and need to be at school. 2nd grader, 4th grader, and 6th grader. We have daily tears and break downs. My poor second grader missed 1/3 of 1st grade The most important year of school arguably and then he was put into online learning no review of all the first grade that they never got. He's struggling he can't keep up he is in tears. My 4th grader does not learn this way and completely starts bawling in front of his whole class on zoom uncontrollably. My poor Middle schooler he's never even been on a middle school campus doesn't understand the concept of middle school and is forced to do six different classes all of a sudden on a computer he's completely shutting down and giving up. On top of all of the emotional damage I am admitting My husband and I are both teaching them normal math not common core. They get the answers right and the processes wrong and We don't have Time or strength to care. We do not have the time to teach ourselves common core and then teach them. We both work full time (well let's be real I try to work but am running from kid to kid to kid all dang day). I've already enrolled them in a day camp in Lake Arrowhead 2 days a week no masks and they just get to be kids and have fun (5 weeks and not even a sniffle) thank God they get to be with kids and happy. Sadly, seems like only private schools and paid for care get to have any normalcy. They need to go back to school full time! Sadly, the AM/PM model for 2 hrs will only make them miss day camp (The only amazing thing they've had in the past seven months) so I'd chose their emotional well being and keep them at camp and not part time am/pm stuff. Plus, if middle school isn't able to start and elementary is that would crush the little spirit my 6th grader has left. I would much rather continue to send them all to day camp. We are surviving not learning. Breaks my heart and I refuse to be up their butts over virtual learning everyday it's not worth ruining our family. |
| 42 | 10/7/20 19:49:31 | Please Murrieta School District, open up all of our schools immediately, and please do not surround our children with plexiglass. Remember that emotional and mental health is just as important as physical health, and our kids are more at risk of suffering poor emotional health than they are of suffering poor physical health as a result of this virus. Our children are suffering! Please step up and be the leaders for our community, and allow parental choice for returning physically in school, for those who wish it, and distance learning for those who don't. Please stand up for public schools, and the right children have to a good, quality, in-person education. |

This is a challenging and stressful time for all of us and I know I feel better knowing you are listening to us and our concerns. I normally do not express my concerns in writing, so to write this to you shows how important this is to me. It may also be an issue the MEA is negotiating now, but I thought I'd share my thoughts as well. Earlier this week, I heard that all students would be required to wear masks at school. Later in the week, I heard that it may not be required for students in TK-2 grade. As a first grade teacher, I feel that it is for the health of everyone that TK-2 grade teachers are given the same protection and consideration for our health as the 3rd-12th grade teachers. I'm very concerned about being in a small space (likely not well ventilated) with 15 other people who are not wearing masks for up to 6 hours a day/approximately 24 hours a week. All teachers will be wearing a mask for the student's protection from us when we are talking, but what about our health and safety? We all know that little kiddos sneeze and cough and don't necessarily cover effectively most of the time. I see small children wearing masks correctly without issues when I am grocery shopping. I know they can do it if it is expected/required. Also, what if there is a student who doesn't wear a mask or refuses to wear a mask? What will be the response? Why? Why do teachers in 3 and up get more protection than us? It's about our safety. I feel disposable! 😞 I'm very concerned! 😞 I know I am not the only teacher with these concerns. Please let our thoughts be known and expressed to the MEA and The School Board. Thanks so much for all you do for us. We really appreciate all of you! Take care and stay healthy!

43 10/7/20 20:46:55

44 10/7/20 20:59:29 Will SEED be reopen for families when school return?

45 10/7/20 20:57:16 While I fully want my children to be back in school I believe that we should wait and reopen the elementary in January like the secondary. The kids have worked hard to get into a routine with virtual learning, and the teachers are doing amazing. I don't think it is worth it to rush back just a few weeks before Winter Break. I would prefer to start strong in January. It gives time for teachers to prepare and also for the county cases to hopefully continue to go down. Most other elementary schools in our county are waiting until January

45 10/7/20 20:57:16

46 10/7/20 21:59:18 Please open both primary and secondary schools as soon as possible. The impact distance learning has had on my family is devastating. Distance learning does not serve many students well whom are hands on learners. It is not a fair and appropriate education for all students. My middle schooler is home alone all day to complete her online work. She went from being a straight A gold honor roll recipient in all advanced classes to receiving C's, Ds, and Fs this year. I have spoken with her teachers, the technology dept. and her counselor, but cannot fix the fact that she does not learn well online and needs interaction with teachers and peers. There is also lack of consistency with grading and learning platforms and communication modalities among her teachers. She learns best in group face to face settings. She has become depressed, anxious, and now has daily headaches from the screen. I do my best to help but it is hard while away at work. I know we are not alone and many families are struggling to appropriately educate their children while away at work and the child is suffering. My elementary schooler faces similar issues, and I have seen her motivation and love for school and learning plummet to my dismay. It is not healthy for them to be alone all day. The schools have precautions in place, and it is time to open up and use them.

46 10/7/20 21:59:18

47 10/7/20 23:05:48 Our kids want so badly to go back to school with their friends and their teachers. It is not mentally healthy to have our kids stuck in front of a computer screen all day. This virus has a survival rate 99.9% and our children are resilient. They want to go back to school and get the proper education they deserve. Let me ask you this, if there is a 1% chance of rain, should we use our umbrella, rain coats, and boots? The answer is NO. So, let's open up without masks and get back to normal. Let's allow our kids to breathe air, and learn.

47 10/7/20 23:05:48

48 10/8/20 6:46:53 Children with special needs, iep with support, pull outs, and more coupled with ongoing never ending tech problems is harming these kids psychologically taking a toll mentally emotionally and academically
Open schools NOW with precautions
Thank you

48 10/8/20 6:46:53

49 10/8/20 6:59:22 I am a TK/Kindergarten teacher and I am concerned about the newest possibility that masks will not be required, only strongly recommended, for TK-2 students. I imagine I'm not the only TK-2 teacher with this concern. Here are the concerns I have with this:
I am being put at a risk that teachers in grades above 2 are not. I'm not sure that this feels fair when it is in regards to my and my family's health and well-being. It will mean my 80 year-old mom who lives next door by herself will not feel safe around me, (which translates to her being isolated). It will also mean my senior in high school who has an autoimmune disorder will also be nervous around me. I know many other TK-2 teachers will have similar issues.
We are some of the only state employees being asked to interact with our clientele maskless. We are being asked to remain in rooms with recycled air for hours at a time with students without masks. Unmasked kids' germs will spread through the whole room and we will be at greater risk.
When I go out into the community I see children younger than second grade wearing masks in public settings everywhere, even short trips to the grocery stores & doctor's offices. Babies and young toddlers are the only ones I really see maskless.
My students will be less protected, and thus, their families will be more at risk also.
My classroom will be more likely to suffer disruptions because of positive covid cases than a higher grade level classroom. TK-2 will likely have more incidences of quarantine.
I will feel safer around my students who choose to wear masks and will be more comfortable coming closer to help them. Because I am human and worried for my family's safety, I will be less likely to come near a student without a mask.
I want to come back to my students and I want to trust my district to care as much about my and my students' physical well-being as they do about an arbitrary suggestion by Riverside. San Diego schools have implemented mask requirements for all students. It honestly makes no sense to have TK-2 come to school maskless and it shows a lack of concern for those of us interacting with that population.

49 10/8/20 6:59:22

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|----|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 50 | 10/8/20 7:43:12 | <p>This is becoming an age-old argument at this point. We as parents know that the decisions have probably already been made by the higher-ups. Many of our children are suffering. They need to have socialization. They need to have a reason to get up in the morning. My son is a freshman this year. He has been a straight A student until this semester, the semester that counts. He is unmotivated and needs in-person schooling. I am worried that this semester will bring down his GPA and will affect him getting accepted into the college of his choice. The future of our children is in jeopardy.</p> <p>I am an early childhood educator and we have not closed. My staff that did not feel "safe" coming back to work did not return. The families that did not feel safe did not return. The rest of us came back to work. It should be the same with the teachers and the students. Make it a choice! Give the parents and the teachers options.</p> |
| 51 | 10/8/20 8:43:11 | <p>Anyone willing to coerce children into social isolation prisons with non-evidence based muzzles should be convicted of child abuse. This reopening plan is not supported by science. Put the kids first and stop this madness. Reopen the schools and reopen them without these senseless restrictions of facial coverings and social distancing.</p> |
| 52 | 10/8/20 8:49:45 | <p>Dear Murrieta Valley Unified School board trustees, I am writing to advocate you take every necessary action to ensure our schools are open for in person instruction for all grade levels before the end of October. As the grown son of a public school teacher I watched my mom work countless hours in the classroom and at home to deliver what her students needed to grow. Like most of the teachers in our district the work for her was not simply a job, it was a calling. Our teachers and staff should be commended for how much they have accomplished with the virtual education program. I recognize the level of dedication and work that goes into developing and executing an online curriculum. However, there are certain educational objectives that simply can not be achieved with distance learning no matter how much hard work the educational team puts towards the challenge. Make no mistake teachers, the kids in our district are asking you to answer the call to return to in person instruction. Additionally, as an Emergency Physician who has cared for numerous patients with COVID-19 disease, I recognize the seriousness of this pandemic. It needs to be taken seriously. In person instruction decisions understandably must be weighed using data. We must also recognize our kids are facing many additional challenges in our district beyond just this virus. The loss of educational opportunity is a real threat as well. As a parent I appreciate that there is no mitigation plan that can remove all risk involved with a return to school. Undoubtedly our kids and staff will be experiencing a new learning environment once they return to school due to public health needs. However, it is time to return. Please mitigate the risk as best as you reasonably can and immediately open the schools for all grades. It is time. Parents in our district will weigh the needs of their children against the risks of a return to in person instruction and make the right decision for their family and our community.</p> <p>Sincerely, [REDACTED]</p> |
| 53 | 10/8/20 8:54:38 | <p>What accommodations, which you are required to have by law, will you have for families who will not wear facial coverings as it is against their religious beliefs? Telling them to stay home will be discrimination.</p> |
| 54 | 10/8/20 8:05:43 | <p>Good evening members of the board. First of all let me start by saying thank you for all you to make MVUSD the best it can be for students and staff. You are in an almost impossible situation, which we all are aware of and appreciate. Having said that, I would like to voice my opinion on reopening schools for all students. I have one student in middle school and one in high School. They have been inside and away from all things social for 7 months. They are both suffering tremendously with their mental health. While, I believe that distant learning has gone smoother than the spring, my children and most others I know are miserable. My son has recently been diagnosed with dyslexia with new supports put into place before the lockdown. His case carrier is amazing, however he is failing two classes and will be headed to high school next year. I am a single mother working two jobs and now my 13 year old, dyslexic son has to be alone during the day in charge of his own learning. Most days we are both in tears because he can not handle the work load and is having difficulty being on the computer without physical supports next to Him. He has even hit a wall, resulting in a broken hand out of frustration. This is unacceptable. This is not what's best for our children. Please consider the older students returning ASAP as well. We are doing more harm to our students now and to their future, then the virus will do. Thank you</p> |
| 55 | 10/8/20 9:08:51 | <p>I am so saddened to see the requirements for our young kids to return to school. The science has shown us over and over again that this virus has a survival rate of 99.9% yet you are demanding our children live like robots while at school. We as adults are failing these children. At elementary age, the kids thrive off of social interaction with their peers and teachers. This is a form of abuse making our children live in fear and believe a virus is SO deadly they can't play on a playground or learn to share a box of crayons. I am curious what your exemption protocols will be. I have a child with severe asthma who cannot wear a mask but he deserves the right to be in school. What kind of protocol do you have in place so these students are not discriminated against due to their health disability? I will be listening closely tonight to hear your plans to accommodate ALL students.</p> |
| 56 | 10/8/20 9:20:41 | <p>While I know there are many parents that would like for school to open. I am not one of them. I strongly oppose school reopening for in person instruction. It will pose too much of a risk to not only staff and students, but to all family members that live with the child. I recommend waiting until at least January before discussing the return to in person instruction.</p> |
| 57 | 10/8/20 9:21:59 | <p>i think it's absurd to want to have our schools feel like a prison and require all this nonsense. Let the kids go back to normal. If parents want to keep their kids home, so be it. If teachers want to stay out of the classrooms, let them. There are plenty on both sides of the coin. I wouldn't have my child go back to school with these "guidelines" that I don't agree with; I'd prefer homeschooling. The COVID death rates do not even come close to the mental health crisis of our kids and parents, and long term damages these guidelines and BS protocols create. As a first responder who doesn't live in a bubble (thank God) and gets to see the real world, I can assure you I would rather my family get COVID than continue down this scare tactic path of mind control, and witness all the negative effects on our society.</p> |

This is just so sad. Children wearing masks to school and not being allowed to stand CLOSE to their friends?
This covid 19 is less deadly than the flu and you're keeping our children isolated.
These children are going to have PTSD later in life. Depression is at an all time high. Kids want to go back to school, see their friends and BREATHE.
Please do not require masks!!! My daughter can barely breathe in one and my nephew is special needs and will not wear one.
This is inhumane and I will not stand for it.
Get the kids back to
School normally.
Treat this just as you would THE FLU. Essentially, that's what it is.
If they're sick, we keep them home. Common sense.
The flu happens every year and kids stay home. It spreads as well. It's LIFE.
A virus is a virus and if we scare our kids imagine how they will be when they grow up.
Let's remember we have never shut down school for any other virus. This is purely political now.
Please don't fall for the corrupt "law makers"

58 10/8/20 9:31:14

Please do the right thing. I pray that our kids will not have to suffer like this.

Schools need to open back up, including 6-12th grades. The secondary kids are old enough to be trusted to wear masks and sanitize. Kids are suffering by being at home 24/7. Online school does not compare to in school options. It is also bad for our children's mental health. Privileged children that are able to attend private schools are back in the classrooms and it has not caused a spike in covid cases. Children in public schools deserve the same chance as a great education as these children in private schools. This virus is not going away. Closing schools is obviously not the answer.

59 10/8/20 9:33:55

I have 5 kids in elementary school (Lisa J Mails), and 4 have IEP's. One is in special Ed. This has been a nightmare in my home since March. They are regressing, and acting out. I am thankful for the activities and sports they have been involved in. Kids won't wear masks when they do karate or soccer. I understand the need to social distance, I am not opposed to wearing masks in school, but this is like prison. Please think about their mental health. My 3rd grader now has anxiety and depression. My 5th grader is depressed. My twin kinders are picking up anxiety habits (they've chewed their fingers to the core) while on zoom. These kids need school to be more normalized. They need to be around peers. Please don't make school like a nazi camp where they will get punished if talking to closely to a peer. If I could afford private school for my 5 children I would send them, but unfortunately I've had to stop working because I have special needs children.

60 10/8/20 9:47:25

Please reopen, taking precautions, but do not take everything away from these kids. Socialization is a huge part of growing up and these kids are being taught to be afraid of everything.

I really would like to see the student go back to school as normal as possible. These kids are far too young to understand what is going on and how out of control this so called virus is. I don't agree with the kids going back for only a few hours a few days a week I think they need to go back full time and get the education they deserve. They should not be put behind plexiglass no parent should feel they are sending their child to a prison style environment. If a parent doesn't feel comfortable sending their child to school then they shouldn't but for those that are they should be given their choice and to have their child get the right education and same for a teacher that does or doesn't feel comfortable. It is a parents job to worry about the safety of their child not the schools and it's the schools job to provide the highest education possible and parents trust the schools to do that and 2ish hours a day behind glass with no social interaction is not doing what they should be doing to provide the kids with what they need. This has gone on long enough and the kids have suffered enough this is damaging to them in so many ways. The vote a few months back favored traditional school and I feel that should be honored.

61 10/8/20 9:48:00

Children of all ages need to return to school immediately - enough is enough!
Please consider children of all ages to return to school in-person immediately. Children's academic, social, emotional, and physiological health and well being is in grave danger when continuing with distance learning school at home. I have twin boys who are both miserable and depressed causing mental health and physical health issues due to the children's heavy load doing school independently at home. I have paid for tutors, used neighbors, family and my resources are dried up! The children are suffering the most and need to return in-person to school immediately! As a two parent working family, we are begging you, for our children's sake. OPEN NOW!

62 10/8/20 9:57:02

My daughter is in kindergarten this year last year she was in TK because of her age. With school being distance learning is been a very challenging year for my daughter who is ADHD/sensory. I think most people realize that students listen better to teachers than their parents at home by continuing distance learning I am in fear of my daughter falling extremely behind as due to her age it would not be fair for her to do another year of kindergarten or be far behind for a first grade level next year. I worry about my daughter social skills as well. Its teaching her to not socialize and isolate herself. Her services for OT an RSP are falling behind when she's not in social setting or school. These young kids need to be back in school. As a full time mom a single mother this is extremely challenging for us. My daughter is not receiving the most educational during this distance learning. I am asking us to please re open for these kids. They need to go back to what is normal. We are putting fear into our children we are creating anxiety And they're learning skills are just not where they should be. Thank you for listening.

63 10/8/20 9:57:26

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| 64 | 10/8/20 9:59:09 | I have three children in the district one at Cole Canyon, fourth grade, one at Thompson, seventh grade, and one at Murrieta Valley high school, 10th grade. The school closure has deeply impacted my children in a number of ways. Not only are they suffering educationally, but also emotionally. My children have gone from being straight A students to now receiving C's and D's. They have lost their passion for learning. They are glued to screens all day. They are depressed, frustrated, confused & bored. It is a very unfortunate and unfair situation. Private schools being able to re-open, but public schools cannot. Why are we held to a different standard? Is it because we can't pay thousands of thousands of dollars to send our kids to school? We as a community are suffering and we need repair and change. Please, Stand up for what's right! These kids need to be in school and everyone knows it. These kids need their lives back. Please Stop allowing our children to be used as pawns in this political chess game. Murrieta is better than that. Thank you |
| 65 | 10/8/20 10:05:00 | As a parent of secondary students, my kids have finally gotten into a routine and are getting used to the virtual learning. Please strongly consider not beginning transition back until the next semester. Even with the option for students to stay virtual, transitioning in the later part of the semester will cause disruption to everyone. Please don't have that happen along with preparing for finals. Let the secondary students finish out the semester in the way it was started. |
| 66 | 10/8/20 9:25:33 | I feel it is not safe enough to allow all kids back to school. But I'm not opposed to allowing the SDC and RSP students back on campus due to the small class sizes and I do feel they need it the most. As for the secondary SDC and RSP kids with there PE and Elective classes not sure how that would work for them though, maybe those teachers could be on campus that day for there zoom and these kids could do there classes with them in person. |
| 67 | 10/8/20 10:22:03 | LET OUR CHILDREN BE CHILDREN!! The isolation that you are imposing on our kids on and off campus will have everlasting mental health effects. If we follow the science children are not impacted with severe symptoms if any. Parents need to have the option for traditional, hybrid or virtual to meet the needs of all families. Parents need to go back to work, children need to be in school playing, sharing, and problem solving with their peers. THE MURRIETA COMMUNITY WANTS TRADITIONAL FULL DAY SCHOOL FOR OUR CHILDREN |
| 68 | 10/8/20 10:23:53 | It is clear from the projected reopening plans that you did not take into account the survey's that were sent out this summer to parents and families regarding reopening of school. At that time, over 60% of parents opted for regular in-person traditional school with no masks or social distancing. It would be safe to assume that number is the same or higher at this time. You have projected a hybrid model of social isolation with students who have to wear a muzzle over their mouths to learn. You are taking away their voice, their individuality, and punishing them when the data clearly shows that children do not carry or spread the virus. You will drive students further into depression and create an even bigger academic and social-emotional learning gap. This learning model also shows a clear discrimination towards students with Individualized Learning Plans, 504's, medical conditions and working families; to which you are not providing learning resources and a learning environment that is required by law for all students. This promotes an even further inequitable learning environment. You have clearly shown the community that you do not value the thoughts or concerns of parents and families regarding school reopening. |
| 69 | 10/8/20 10:34:51 | I wrote a long piece last night but after reading the fine print about teachers may change that would be devastating! If my children stays home because this hybrid plan is a joke they should. It be the ones that have to go through a teacher change that would be 100% NOT OK. This has been so horrible then they might have to have their little life's disrupted again. No just no. Not ok. |
| 70 | 10/8/20 10:44:16 | I am very concerned for all children as they need to be in school NOW. I have a special needs child and a nuerotypical child. The virtual learning is not successful for my family. Kids need to be around other kids for socialization and to learn from one another. Our kids are at more risk by keeping them secluded. It's so damaging to their self esteem and education. Please stand up for our kids and get them back to school full time. Enough is enough and we need the district to support our kids. Also make sure special needs kids are taken care of properly. They struggle as it is and this is not helping. Im very upset with the district and you need to take a stand and back up. The parents aren't going to take this much longer. |
| 71 | 10/8/20 10:45:50 | I vote, support and want our schools to reopen schools. It is vital to our kids learning, development, socialization, and overall childhood to be back in school. If work places, stores, salons, restaurants, sports, private schools etc are open then our Public schools can/should be open. |
| 72 | 10/8/20 10:51:25 | Is this layout also the same for Mesa High School? |

Dear School Board,

Last meeting we heard the positive experiences that were shared by students and teachers with the current learning model for distance learning. I can tell you from not only my own experiences with my four children, but from the experiences of our friends and classmates, that they did not and do not reflect the thoughts, feelings, and attitudes of the majority of us in MVUSD schools.

My family is a family in crisis. I have four children ranging from kindergarten to a senior in high school that are have completely lost their desire to learn or participate. I have a sophomore high school student failing most of his classes due to the avalanche of assignments that come with 7 online classes, a senior who is ready to drop out and take her GED and who feels hopeless about her future, a third grader who cries throughout his meetings because he feels lost and is frustrated with the "glitchy" technology, and a kindergartener who is not able to engage with his teacher and students and misses valuable social interaction with his classmates. All my kids are in tears daily. Depression and anxiety has overcome them all.

THIS IS NOT WORKING.

I have seen the proposed learning models for TVUSD. If this is even remotely close to what MVUSD is considering, it isn't a sufficient plan either. This is damaging to the working families more than anyone. How can any family with 2 working parents manage this schedule? This whole plan will disproportionately effect lower income and minority families who cannot secure adequate childcare to compensate for these hours.

Our kids need to be in school for social, educational, and emotional growth and success. NO ONE IS LISTENING TO THE SCIENCE. Children are the LEAST EFFECTED population of this virus and their mortality rate is ZERO.

It is generational discrimination "We adults don't want to get sick, so we are keeping schools closed." Depression, substance abuse, child abuse, self-harm, obesity, runaways, and suicide are rising and will continue to rise. The best scientific experts have data to support this. We are basing keeping our kids at home on infection rates and not death or hospitalization rates, which is total nonsense. We HAVE NEVER DONE THIS FOR ANYTHING BEFORE! WHY NOW? This is the dumbing down of a whole generation.

We are failing our children. They will have lost 2 academic years once all is said and done. The repercussions of this will have effects for years to come once this virus is a bad memory.

73 10/8/20 10:34:47 Wear masks, sanitize more, encourage sleep, good hygiene, and a healthy diet to promote health and a strong immune system and OPEN THE SCHOOLS.

To the Murrieta Valley Unified School District,

I wanted my voice/my children's voice heard. At your last audio public board meeting we heard from several employees of the district about how they feel the distance learning is being received, all positive praises. I don't feel that the assessment made is accurate. While I do agree that my children's teachers have been working hard and doing the best they can in this situation we are in, I disagree that this way of learning is working well for my children. Yes, some may flourish in this setting and if they want to continue this way, I say please do. The rest of us are not given an option. My once studious eighth grader has no desire to try. He was almost a straight A student last year and now is daily on the verge of failing numerous classes. This way of learning is not working for him. What are his options?

We are failing our children, we are doing them a disservice. All of this in the name of a virus that has such a low percentage of death in children that I'm still confused on why it's even being mentioned. I'm worried about my children and not just about the fact that they may be falling behind but also because this situation has changed them, they hate school. They would give anything to be back on campus (not for 2.5 hours in a glass cage) but back to their old ways of learning.

Please open the schools! Think of the students future, think about their mental health, and what we are risking and for what! Thank you for you time.

74 10/8/20 11:11:59

[REDACTED]

75 10/8/20 11:16:30 I support ALL schools open for full time access. Having such strict, prison like, restrictions to for children will hinder their learning. As well as, ruin their mental health. Children are already suffering.

I urge you to support opening the schools for In-Person Instruction as soon as possible. Our kids need to be back in class, now! The loss of learning from distance teaching is considerable and measurable. The students and the parents are GIVING UP! Good students are FAILING!!! Failing in grades, but also failing mentally and emotionally. Lives are breaking down. It's hurting our kids, our parents and education in general. The kids need to be back in school now. We just cannot afford any more distance "learning," the final price is too high. There MUST be options, possibly even a hybrid model. Students and teachers that want to remain distance learning can do so. Those that want to resume in-person can chose to do so. I urge you and beg and plead for you to consider giving your students and parents an option and a choice. PLEASE!!!!

76 10/8/20 11:22:51

Dear Board of Education,

I have reviewed all the details of the efforts the district is putting in place to try to mitigate the risk of spreading Covid-19 in our classrooms. However, I cannot but notice that a major factor in the spread of Covid-19 will not be addressed. I am referring to the fact that there is no proper ventilation in our classrooms. The CDC reported that the virus "can remain suspended in the air and drift more than 6 feet, and officials emphasized the importance of indoor ventilation. It also added singing and breathing to the ways the virus can go airborne." (The Associated Press Health and Science Department, October 5, 2020)

The district support center has willingly shared with me a letter written by Dufoe Consulting Engineers, inc., who evaluated the schools HVAC system capabilities (filtration/capacity and airborne contaminants layoff). The closing statement in this letter says, "We realize we have offered no guidance on how to safely put the students back into the classrooms. We do not see a feasible solution to simply altering system operations to accommodate safety. If it were possible, it would have been our first recommendation. Common sense and protocols for preventing ill persons from being in the environment, and sanitation will be the best defense. Similar to what is being employed by our healthcare workers in this trying time." This statement is extremely troubling to me in several ways:

1. There will be no testing provided by the district. We will rely on an honor system of self checks by families and staff.
2. It is scientifically proven many people, especially children, can be asymptomatic and yet be super spreaders.
3. There is no way you can prevent a sick person from entering a classroom.
4. We will not even come close to the measures healthcare workers take to prevent the spread of the virus.
5. An air filter grade MERV 14 and above is recommended to capture the particles of concern, yet the filters used in our classrooms are MERV 9.
6. This is even more concerning for grades 2 and below where masks are encouraged, but not required.

Simply put, our classroom environments do not have proper ventilation or filtration to prevent this deadly airborne disease from spreading within the classroom and the entire pod, which could potentially house one hundred people at a time, if we had half the students present.

Is the district going to be transparent about this major risk factor? Will families and staff return to the classroom willingly knowing that nothing has or will be done to mitigate the risk posed by the lack of proper ventilation and filtration? I feel our district is pushing the return to the classrooms prematurely and it is very possible we will slide back to a purple status next week. Even returning when we are at red (substantial risk) doesn't seem to be a sensible choice. Why not wait until we are at least orange or yellow? Most districts around us are not considering reopening until possibly January, which would make more sense in many ways.

Returning to the classrooms now is not a matter of if, but when, someone will be affected or even killed by this virus.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

[REDACTED]

77 10/8/20 11:30:39 Second Grade Teacher and Parent

They need to adjust their reopen plan to support the needs of all the students and the desires of the parents, not the hypotheticals of the paranoid. 0 healthy children have died. Kids get sick and recover from coronavirus. It's unacceptable to punish Our Children because our elected officials do not like President Trump. To say nothing of the tax dollars that are still being removed from our paychecks to pay for our public school education. No child or parent wants to return to this type of learning environment, I personally feel it is extremely satanic.

78 10/8/20 11:26:13

Hello! I am writing to you because I know the board is deciding what steps will be taken now that Riverside County has entered the red tier for Covid-19. I am the father of a 6th grader at Thompson Middle School, and a Murrieta homeowner. I would like to strongly urge you and your colleagues to please consider reopening school, in person, for our secondary students. Even a hybrid model would be welcomed at this point. Waiting until January would not be acceptable for our family. Our son is struggling. And we are very concerned about his social and emotional well-being. My son went from being a very outgoing, fun-loving, social butterfly in March, to a sad, lonely, frustrated student today. He has gained weight and often says he feels discouraged and self-conscious. He asks to be off camera during the zoom class meetings. But we still encourage him to have the face time with his teachers, because we want him to feel some sort of connection at this very sensitive age.

His teachers and administrators have been wonderful and we can't thank them enough. But the toll from the virtual learning is intense. Both my wife and son end some of the school days in tears because they feel overwhelmed with the amount of work, and alone when the tough questions come. Office hours are never enough, never at the right time when they are stumped on a question, and can never replace the benefits of in person teaching. The distance learning has also impacted my wife's ability to work because our son is too young to be left home alone. She also feels anxiety being away too long, for fear of how heavy the homework load is....and if you miss just one day of work it's double the next day. Quite honestly folks, we are hurting. We hear the same sentiments over and over again from all of our school friends who are also at home struggling to stay positive and fight the depression from setting in. Thank you for your time and consideration. MVUSD has been such a wonderful place for us and we are desperate to get back to real school, on campus, where the kids belong.

Sincerely,

79 10/8/20 11:49:43

[REDACTED]

Too many restriction for a curable disease. One that barely affects children 18 and younger. CDC does not even show an actual number for this group. The statistic do however show an increase in suicides and overdoses due to lockdown and covid restrictions.

80 10/8/20 11:55:08

- 81 10/8/20 12:00:37 I support opening the schools. I appreciate the risk, but believe the risk of keeping kids home is far worse long term.
- Dear Board Members,
I am the parent of 2 high school students that are eager to get back to Murrieta Valley HS. I am asking you to do whatever it takes to get ALL of our students back on campus as soon as possible. The kids will be fine... statistically speaking, the virus is not a concern for them. However, a continued lack of quality education, social isolation, depression, and the deletion of teenage milestones is certain to cause irreparable damage. You can help turn this train wreck of a situation around by voting to get our students back to school, sooner rather than later.
A few teachers may be in a higher risk category for having CoVid complications should they contract the virus. These teachers should be the ones to continue teaching from home. The rest of the teachers need to get to school and do their jobs. Teachers are essential workers and Essential workers work - face to face to get their jobs done. Can you imagine if our doctors, nurses, pilots, grocery clerks threw their arms up and said "I am too afraid to go back to work and do my job!" Essential workers work. You need to stand up to the union and get the teachers back on campus teaching our kids. If they don't want to work, they can find another job - or become a tutor to the many kids who are desperately behind where they should be right now due to distance learning.
Speaking of kids being behind.... we just concluded our 6 week grading period for this semester. I am sure you have seen the grim statistics. Students with 2 or more D's or F's has sharply increased. If our kids are failing, that means the school is failing; distance learning is failing; and YOU ARE FAILING OUR KIDS every day you choose to keep them at home. Who is failing at the greatest rate? Marginalized students, students low on the socioeconomic scale - 75% of students in that category have 2 or more D's or F's. This is unacceptable. Hearing this statistic brought me to tears and I hope it does you as well.
Most residents moved to Murrieta in part because the schools are great. I expect our schools to be educating our kids in person, on campus, as soon as allowed by the state. I expect the Board of Education to put the students and their education FIRST. If some students don't want to come back to school - fine. But do not punish the entire student population when science and data clearly show that kids are a low risk group and not the 'super spreaders' they were once thought to be.
My hope today is that you hear the parents just as loudly as you hear the union representatives, administrators, and staff. We matter too, and the students matter the most. Please let your actions and votes demonstrate that the students are indeed the top priority - YOUR top priority!
- 82 10/7/20 15:51:14
- 83 10/8/20 12:12:16 "I don't like the idea of the screen in front of us, there aren't as many Corona virus numbers as there were in March. I want to go back, so just let us go back! This doesn't seem necessary. Masks are fine, but please don't give us barriers" - [REDACTED], 3rd grade Alta Murrieta Elementary "
- 84 10/8/20 12:24:03 PLEASE FULLY OPEN SCHOOLS. The proposed drawn-out hybrid plan looks like chaos for parents, students AND teachers. Many districts in the country are back to normal school and thriving. Let parents decide what is best for their own kids. Get the students back in school.
- 85 10/8/20 12:36:26 These school restrictions are not based on science. Coercing children into these social isolation prisons is abuse and will have longterm effects of trauma and fear. There is PLENTY of science which shows a cloth or surgical mask does NOT stop the spread of viral particles. We did not make our kids wear a mask in school during flu season or even H1N1. Why now? There is still no proof that wearing a piece of cloth over your mouth will protect you from a deadly virus (read the box it comes in), let alone forcing children to wear them who will constantly be touching their faces, taking their mask on & off, fidgeting with them, etc. They are kids! If people are afraid of this thing, they can willingly choose to stay home. The masks are there to keep people in fear of a virus that is no longer a threat, especially to our children. When you can't pack a church, but can pack a plane or a Walmart THIS ISN'T ABOUT YOUR HEALTH. When you can sit at a restaurant face to face eating and drinking, but can't sit in a classroom with fellow students to learn, there is a problem. The CDC numbers have been manipulated and false time and time again. The death rate numbers (which are still at less than .006% and less than the common flu) are also manipulated and false. There are numerous doctors speaking out against this false narrative and they are continuing to be silenced. Meanwhile, the mainstream media continues to push fear & lies. We have to ask ourselves why. WAKE UP MURRIETA! Take a stand for our kids. Let them go back to school uninhibited, without a mask and all these ridiculous plastic dividers & rules. It is time to take back our freedom. Let us as parents choose whether or not we want to put our kids back in the classroom. Let us take on the risk as their God-given parents. If parents are still uneasy or have an at-risk child, they can choose to continue distance learning. The private schools in town are allowing parents to decide if their children will wear a mask or not, as they are all back to school. Do the right thing, Murrieta School District. Let our kids go back to school in the most normal atmosphere possible. Our kids need to learn, they need their friends, they need their teachers, they need to play sports again, they need normalcy. Let's get back to the basics of getting our vitamin D in the sunshine, taking our vitamins, washing our hands and taking necessary precautions when we are actually sick. The reopening plan you are proposing is chaotic and traumatizing and we will not be participating in this experimental madness. Thank you for listening.
- 86 10/8/20 12:44:22 Open the schools!!
- 87 10/8/20 12:39:52 We need to open school and get our students the education they deserve. In person full time school needs to happen. Covid is not going away our children deserve to get the education they have the right to. My child especially needs all the benefits from in person regulate school. He needs interactions with his peers/teachers and to learn social cues and appropriate behaviors. Virtual school/ modified school is a disservice to our children and their futures.
- 88 10/8/20 12:48:27 all grades should reopen. Children are not learning or being successful in their subjects by not being in school

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| 89 | 10/8/20 12:44:05 | Children should not be required to mask and be isolated, that is abuse, especially for young students. I have a 6 year old and he would be devastated and not understand if he had to look at his friends but not be able to interact with them. We need to think about the current and long term affects this is having on the mental health of our children. I can already see the lasting damage this is causing my son. It is so vital that young children learn how to play and communicate with each other, learn how to share toys and supplies, be good friends. This lockdown has caused countless suicides in adults, how do you think it is affecting children? Whose brains are not fully developed and are trying to learn the ways of the world? How will they learn the meaning of facial expressions if we are all masked 24/7? I urge you to please think about our children's mental health. |
| 90 | 10/8/20 12:49:13 | If school were to open back up, would us parents have the 3 options that we were given before? In class, hybrid and virtual? |
| 91 | 10/8/20 12:45:53 | My children are in middle school and high school and the delay of allowing them back into in person school is hurting them. The mental health aspect is demonstrated in weekly emotion breakdowns and fits. The educational and learning process is completely different. With distanced learning the children are not getting their needs met according to the individual learning styles that each individual may have. We went from being told to lessen your kids screen time to making them be on the computer for 5-7 hours a day for distanced instruction and homework. This is ridiculous. Give us back the option to select distanced learning, hybrid or traditional school and don't make us wait. The prelate year can opt for whatever they are comfortable with for their specific case. Why do my kids have to be punished until 2021 to have the option? Other states have proven to operate just fine with the kids back in person. If anything the older the child the easier to have them adhere to Social distancing guidelines at school, so why does secondary education have wait, while elementary does not? |
| 92 | 10/8/20 12:50:45 | Hello, I am writing in hope that schools are considered to be open whether we go to the purple tier like predicted. I'm hoping that the waiver will be discussed.. I know my son and other kids are being affected mentally by all of this. 7 months is already too long and someone needs to stand up for our kids mental well being. It seems like no one cares about that part of the pandemic. With all shown on the slides it should be safe to open and get our kids back to school! Thank you. |
| 93 | 10/8/20 12:57:56 | please open schools |
| 94 | 10/8/20 13:01:15 | My son needs to be back in school!! |
| 95 | 10/8/20 13:00:52 | What sanitation/cleaner (name please) will be used to clean classrooms? Will students get to socialize away from their desks? Will students get mask breaks? |
| 96 | 10/8/20 13:04:50 | It's hard enough on our kids to have to go through all of this and on top of that to have to change teachers and basically start all over again, my daughter loves her teacher. So this shouldn't even be an option. In regards to half days, I'm sure a lot of parents won't be sending their kids to school anytime soon, therefore classrooms will have smaller groups anyway. They should be able to go back full days and sanitation can happen in between breaks/recess and after school. Some employers are not as lenient when it comes to school, so it would make it VERY hard to get the kids to school and pick them up 3 hours later or to be at home during virtual learning. |
| 97 | 10/8/20 13:08:02 | I would much rather have them go back to school full time but I support the hybrid decision so they can go at least part time. |
| 98 | 10/8/20 13:25:25 | I have a 5th grader and sophomore. I'm a full time RN working nights at a local hospital. Both my daughters have been in tears out of frustration with their school work. It's great breaking to see. While I'm grateful that I can be home with my girls during the day, half of that time In sleeping getting ready for the next shift. So I can't provide them the full support they need during lessons. They need that social interaction. They need the structure. Being that I work in a hospital I'm well aware of the risks. And I truly believe the the schools can be reopened safely. My kids need this for their mental health. |
| 99 | 10/8/20 13:31:02 | I don't feel that schools should open yet. I have one in MVUSD and 2 in private preschool. The private preschool has closed for the next 2 weeks due to covid cases. |
| 100 | 10/8/20 13:39:15 | I do not agree with the teacher changes. At the beginning of the year you asked us what model we prefer. What was the point of that if you just randomly put kids in classes. It is not fair to take teachers from the children that need to continue to do virtual learning. We are a high risk family and my kids have been completely quarantined for over six months now. They have not complained about it once. And for you guys to now take their teachers away from them is unacceptable. This should have been thought about before the school year began. |
| 101 | 10/8/20 13:35:50 | I am a high school senior this year. Distance learning in it's entirety is detrimental to my learning. Classes are already short and even shorter when they end early. Classwork and homework are minimal. As a senior the classes I am taking should allow for me to grow and be prepared for my future yet all I feel as though I'm doing is relearning basic concepts I have already learned. We feel as though we're stuck in doing the same thing. Wake up (if they do), log on (if they want), log off, lunch. There is nothing exciting that makes me eager to go to class. The rate at which seniors begin checking out is going to come much sooner than the usual spring break if we are not given something to look forward to. School allows us to be social, have raw conversations, and want to get a better education, yet that's not what we are receiving online. For the most part classes have 1 or 2 of students that participate while everyone else is silent with their cameras off. No one is excited to be online and without going back to campus the amount of focus and participation is only going to drop. We are willing to follow all guidelines and wear our masks if it means not having to stare at a screen for hours on end. |

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| 102 | 10/8/20 13:50:21 | I understand the need for parents wanting their kids to go back to an in-person learning model. However, our household prefers virtual instruction as we have an at-risk individual in the household. Will MVUSD still support those families who choose to stay virtual? If so, will we continue to be with the same teacher/school? |
| 103 | 10/8/20 14:22:45 | While I appreciate the time and effort Murrieta School District has put into making sure the students and faculty are as best protected as possible, I still cannot fathom the amount of trauma putting them through this experience will be. What will I tell my child when the first teacher becomes sick, or potentially dies? What will I tell them if it is their classmate? Reopening now, ESPECIALLY when we are so close to an extended break for the holidays is reckless, DESPITE the precautions put forward. While we do not know everything about this virus, we DO know that it thrives in indoor, congregate conditions and it is far wiser to be OVERLY cautious at this point rather than mourn the lives we could have saved. My heart goes out to the parents struggling, especially working parents - as I am one myself, however, this new plan will do nothing to elevate that stress while putting an undo burden on faculty and putting our children in harms way. Given what we know, and what we have seen in other schools, opening now would be a grave mistake that could cost people their lives. |
| 104 | 10/8/20 14:21:09 | I DO NOT think this is healthy for kids. To much change for kids can make it worse for them to fall behind. If there is another outbreak we go back to virtual learning and kids would have to readjust again.. Why can't we leave kids in virtual learning for the entire school year?? |
| 105 | 10/8/20 14:42:08 | Please reopen the schools for in person learning, we are not teachers and the kids are suffering for it! |
| 106 | 10/8/20 14:44:55 | As a teacher on a site with 3800 students I am incredibly concerned about the proposal for fully in person or hybrid learning. I recognize that my students will benefit from in person instruction however the safety measures that are able to be put in place on the campus of our size seems overwhelming and at some points impossible. As proposed, a 5% positivity rate would be required in order for a school to be shut down, that would be 190 students or teachers infected with COVID-19. The current outbreaks that we are seeing in our community are affecting not just the individual but the entire family and extended community that that person is a part of. What contact tracing health precautions and testing will be available to students teachers and staff across the district? How many people is the district willing to see get sick? What will the school board do to protect the lives of the people they serve? At this time, we need to listen to science in order to proceed with any form of learning. |
| 107 | 10/8/20 14:50:28 | I 100 % totally Agree with The below response from [REDACTED]! These school restrictions are not based on science. Coercing children into these social isolation prisons is abuse and will have longterm effects of trauma and fear. There is PLENTY of science which shows a cloth or surgical mask does NOT stop the spread of viral particles. We did not make our kids wear a mask in school during flu season or even H1N1. Why now? There is still no proof that wearing a piece of cloth over your mouth will protect you from a deadly virus (read the box it comes in), let alone forcing children to wear them who will constantly be touching their faces, taking their mask on & off, fidgeting with them, etc. They are kids! If people are afraid of this thing, they can willingly choose to stay home. The masks are there to keep people in fear of a virus that is no longer a threat, especially to our children. When you can't pack a church, but can pack a plane or a Walmart THIS ISN'T ABOUT YOUR HEALTH. When you can sit at a restaurant face to face eating and drinking, but can't sit in a classroom with fellow students to learn, there is a problem. The CDC numbers have been manipulated and false time and time again. The death rate numbers (which are still at less than .006% and less than the common flu) are also manipulated and false. There are numerous doctors speaking out against this false narrative and they are continuing to be silenced. Meanwhile, the mainstream media continues to push fear & lies. We have to ask ourselves why. WAKE UP MURRIETA! Take a stand for our kids. Let them go back to school uninhibited, without a mask and all these ridiculous plastic dividers & rules. It is time to take back our freedom. Let us as parents choose whether or not we want to put our kids back in the classroom. Let us take on the risk as their God-given parents. If parents are still uneasy or have an at-risk child, they can choose to continue distance learning. The private schools in town are allowing parents to decide if their children will wear a mask or not, as they are all back to school. Do the right thing, Murrieta School District. Let our kids go back to school in the most normal atmosphere possible. Our kids need to learn, they need their friends, they need their teachers, they need to play sports again, they need normalcy. Let's get back to the basics of getting our vitamin D in the sunshine, taking our vitamins, washing our hands and taking necessary precautions when we are actually sick. The reopening plan you are proposing is chaotic and traumatizing and we will not be participating in this experimental madness. Thank you for listening. |
| 108 | 10/8/20 14:50:44 | Please open our schools without a mask. These children are not spreading the virus and have been through enough. Let us as their parents make the decision to send them back or not. Those that are scared or are at risk can still be given the opportunity to stay home and do distance learning. This is no longer about a virus and Murrieta knows the truth. Take a stand for our city and start with our kids! Let them go back to school mask free! Thank you for your time. |
| 109 | 10/8/20 14:53:51 | I'm disappointed that you intend to switch the teacher assignments in the middle of the year after having us fill our surveys prior to the school year indicating whether we wanted to participate in virtual learning or in-school learning. Also, I think the timing of re-opening as flu season and the winter break approaches is also a dangerous decision. Further, 2-3 hours of in person learning only serves to put all the kids and teacher at risk and does not really help working parents who will now be faced with taking time out of the work days to facilitate school pick up and drop off. This sounds like a poor choice for our community. |
| 110 | 10/8/20 14:59:57 | Our kids are failing and we are failing our kids by not allowing some type of in person learning. Whether we figure out outdoor classrooms or teachers decide they want to wear the protective gear to make it happen, our kids are deteriorating educationally, mentally, socially and emotionally. Please don't make our kids lose out on future opportunities for careers, college and tech school admissions because we can't reopen the schools! |

Good afternoon, I realize that this was due earlier today but due to my work schedule I wasn't able to submit sooner and hope my comment can be taken into consideration. I have 3 children in the MVUSD system, a 5th grader, a 9th grader and a senior. After reviewing the proposal for in person instruction I have grave concerns about the quality of education my children will be receiving. My kids would very much like to return back on campus however the amount of instruction they will be receiving will be about half of the amount they are currently getting which is already greatly reduced from the normal school schedule. Help us parents understand how our childrens' education won't be negatively impacted by them receiving less than 3 hours of live instruction a day for elementary school and 2 days of live instruction for the high schoolers? There is absolutely no way this limited amount of time with their teachers cannot negatively impact their education. I understand that the district needs to figure out how to solve for a hybrid model but what I don't understand is why they can't have the instructor live stream the class to those doing school from home on the days they are not there? I don't understand how the district thinks that independant work replaces instruction. We went through independent work last spring which was a total joke and left the kids struggling at the start of this semester. The independent work the kids have now to accompany their distance learning amounts to nothing more than what they would have taken home as homework during the regular school year. We have to be concerned about the downstream impact these decisions will have on our kids as they progress through school, take standardized tests and enter college. The curriculum won't change once kids return back to the classrooms to adapt for the loss of education they received due to Covid. While I appreciate the district's creativity here, this is a terrible proposal. It shouldn't be an EITHER OR model...either in person OR independent work. This can be an AND solution utilizing technology to ensure our kids don't get the raw end of the deal here. I strongly urge the district to reevaluate their proposal and do some benchmarking with other districts around the country who have already moved into various models to learn what works and what doesn't. The proposal at hand will no doubt have detrimental effects on our children's education that will show up in the years to come. Sincerely, [REDACTED]

10/8/20 16:27:03

October 8, 2020 Dear Murrieta Valley Unified School board trustees, I am writing to advocate you take every necessary action to ensure our schools are open for in person instruction for all grade levels before the end of October. As the grown son of a public school teacher I watched my mom work countless hours in the classroom and at home to deliver what her students needed to grow. Like most of the teachers in our district the work for her was not simply a job, it was a calling. Our teachers and staff should be commended for how much they have accomplished with the virtual education program. I recognize the level of dedication and work that goes into developing and executing an online curriculum. However, there are certain educational objectives that simply can not be achieved with distance learning no matter how much hard work the educational team puts towards the challenge. Make no mistake teachers, the kids in our district are asking you to answer the call to return to in person instruction. Additionally, as an Emergency Physician who has cared for numerous patients with COVID-19 disease, I recognize the seriousness of this pandemic. It needs to be taken seriously. In person instruction decisions understandably must be weighed using data. We must also recognize our kids are facing many additional challenges in our district beyond just this virus. The loss of educational opportunity is a real threat as well. As a parent I appreciate that there is no mitigation plan that can remove all risk involved with a return to school. Undoubtedly our kids and staff will be experiencing a new learning environment once they return to school due to public health needs. However, it is time to return. Please mitigate the risk as best as you reasonably can and immediately open the schools for all grades. It is time. Parents in our district will weigh the needs of their children against the risks of a return to in person instruction and make the right decision for their family and our community. Sincerely, [REDACTED]

10/8/20 0:00:00

I wanted to let you know about some of the concerns that teachers have expressed to me about the reopening. Some are very concerned about the plan for daily AM and PM cohorts. I understand the lunch dilemma, but the cleaning and lingering fumes are perhaps an even larger problem. Several teachers mentioned that the misting left a horrible smell in the air that lasted longer than an hour and a half. They also mentioned having severe migraine headaches or breathing issues after their return to the classroom. I am concerned about the impact this may have on students in the PM cohort and staff. I think a better plan would be to have the kids attend two full days a week (group 1 cohort T/W and then group 2 TH/F cohort for example) and then mist and clean after school. That way children would not be exposed to the germs or contaminants daily. This would also help working parents to have two full days covered. It would also help teachers have enough time to teach core content. One teacher suggested 3 days a week with one group, two with the other, switching every other Monday with each group. (group 1 M/T/W, Group 2 TH/F then the following week M/TH/ F with group 2 and T/W group 1) I understand that you are under extreme pressure, but just wanted to offer a possible solution. Thank you for all you do! [REDACTED]

10/7/20 20:19:00

Dear Mr. I am a concerned parent and resident who lives here in the city of Murrieta and was shocked to hear that the school district was considering reopening schools, in the midst of rising Covid 19 cases within Riverside County. The district's plans to reopen days before Thanksgiving break and within a couple of weeks of Winter break (Christmas), will most certainly lead to an increase in the spread of Covid 19 cases, as students and staff will be returning "home for the holidays". This added stress and anxiety that both students, staff and their families will have to go through before, during and after the holidays, not knowing if they have become infected with Covid 19, is unnecessary. The district needs to wait until January before re-opening and re-evaluate the data at that time. Knowing the flu season is coming and knowing the current increases in Covid 19 cases are already beginning to occur, it simply makes sense to hold off on reopening schools, especially elementary schools, at this time. We do not want re-open, only to have to close down again and we certainly do not want to contribute to the spread of Covid 19. I appreciate the time and effort the school board puts into protecting the safety of our community and children. [REDACTED]

10/8/20 9:59:00

To the Murrieta Valley Unified School District, I wanted my voice and my children's voices heard. At your last audio public board meeting, we heard from several employees of the district and parents about how they feel the distance learning is being received; all positive praises. I don't feel that the assessment that was made accurately represents the majority of experiences that parents and kids are having. While I do agree that my children's teachers have been working hard and doing the best the situation, I disagree that this way of learning is working well for my children. Yes, some may flourish in this setting and if they want to continue this way, they should. The rest of us were not given an option. My once studious eighth grader has no desire to try. He was almost a straight-A student last year and now is on the verge of failing numerous classes. This way of learning is not working for him. What are his options? We are failing our children. We are doing them a disservice. All of this in the name of a virus that has a non-existent mortality rate in children and I'm still confused on why it's even being mentioned. I'm worried about my children, and not just about the fact that they may be falling behind, but also because this situation has changed them. They hate school. They would give anything to be back on campus; not for 2.5 hours in a glass cage, but back to the old way of learning. Please open the schools! Think of the student's futures. Think about their mental health and what we are risking and for what. Thank you for your time. [REDACTED]

10/8/20 10:15:22

[REDACTED] MVUSD Elementary Teacher/MEA Elementary Director I would like to share my concerns about the proposed elementary hybrid schedule that is being presented at this meeting. Since I am the elementary director for MEA, our elementary teacher members contact me with their concerns, which have increased exponentially during the Covid crisis. In a short time and with the pressure of high expectations, teachers have had to completely transform the way they deliver instruction, while simultaneously learning about and implementing a new learning management system (Canvas). Many teachers are already nervous about returning to in-person instruction the week before Thanksgiving, fearing that students will return from the break after attending large family gatherings—potentially exposing teachers and classmates to this virus. TK-2 teachers are already upset that masks will not be required for their students. And now, this proposed elementary hybrid schedule will compound the stress on elementary teachers. Elementary teachers are supposed to be provided, according to our contract, with 45 minutes of prep time, a 30-minute uninterrupted lunch and a 20-minute break. This proposed schedule is short by 15 minutes each Tuesday through Thursday. In addition to this shortage, teachers are expected to help supervise dismissal times twice daily and only ten minutes has been designated for each dismissal time. If students are not picked up on time, which is commonplace at the elementary level, this dismissal supervision will further compromise the teachers' prep and break/lunch time. In addition to this encroachment, teachers will have to vacate their classrooms for at least ten minutes at some point during this mid-day break time so that custodial staff can spray disinfectant throughout the classroom—further interruption of break/prep time. The Monday schedule also needs to be addressed. Teachers on the Elementary Instructional Model Task Force feel that providing 3 hours of live virtual instruction is excessive, especially when Monday is the only day that offers opportunity to provide teachers with much-needed prep time. Teachers suggested having a 30-minute live morning meeting and then providing asynchronous activities for the remainder of the day. Additionally, students could be provided with other live opportunities on Mondays, such as lessons with the counselor, intervention groups and art activities. There was concern expressed that families might turn every weekend into a 3-day weekend. However, this could be easily prevented by making Wednesday, rather than Monday, the virtual day. Given the complex demands of juggling virtual teaching and providing asynchronous activities/instruction while also planning and preparing for in-person instruction for two groups of students, teachers need more prep time than ever before. Even in-person instruction will look dramatically different than before, with social-distancing rules that limit both student interaction and sharing of materials. Our curriculum has emphasized collaborative activities and using technology for some independent classwork, and these will not be options for in-person instruction. Hands-on activities for practicing skills, such as games played with peers, will no longer be options in the classroom. This adaptation of the curriculum will require planning and preparation time. Teaching virtually and providing asynchronous activities requires an entirely different kind of planning and preparation. Keep in mind that all the in-person assignments will need to be graded and asynchronous programs must be monitored for student usage and performance. Again, teachers need time to do this. To provide quality instruction that meets the needs of all students, elementary teachers need more time to plan and prepare. This proposed elementary hybrid schedule does not include adequate planning and prep time for elementary teachers to meet the needs of their students.

10/7/20 0:00:00

To Whom It May Concern, Hello! I am writing to you because I know there is a very important Board of Education meeting tonight to decide what steps will be taken now that Riverside County has entered the red tier for Covid-19. I am the father of a 6th grader at Thompson Middle School, and a Murrieta homeowner. I would like to strongly urge you and your colleagues to please consider reopening school, in person, for our secondary students. Even a hybrid model would be welcomed at this point. Waiting until January would not be acceptable for our family. Our son is struggling. And we are very concerned about his social and emotional well-being. My son went from being a very outgoing, fun-loving, social butterfly in March, to a sad, lonely, frustrated student today. He has gained weight and often says he feels discouraged and self-conscious. He asks to be off camera during the zoom class meetings. But we still encourage him to have the face time with his teachers, because we want him to feel some sort of connection at this very sensitive age. His teachers and administrators have been wonderful and we can't thank them enough. But the toll from the virtual learning is intense. Both my wife and son end some of the school days in tears because they feel overwhelmed with the amount of work, and alone when the tough questions come. Office hours are never enough, never at the right time when they are stumped on a question, and can never replace the benefits of in person teaching. The distance learning has also impacted my wife's ability to work because our son is too young to be left home alone. She also feels anxiety being away too long, for fear of how heavy the homework load is....and if you miss just one day of work it's double the next day. Quite honestly folks, we are all hurting. We hear the same sentiments over and over again from all of our school friends who are also at home struggling to stay positive and fight the depression from setting in. Thank you for your time and consideration. MVUSD has been such a wonderful place for us and we are desperate to get back to real school, on campus, where the kids belong. Sincerely, [REDACTED]

10/8/20 12:13:20

Dear School Board Member, I am confidentially submitting this letter for your consideration before tonight's school board meeting. We know that parents, students, teachers and the community are anxious for students to return to school. I would like to ask that the school board move slowly in returning students to school. Over the last few weeks, we have seen our community numbers spike just after reopening many public venues. It is my understanding that once schools are opened, if our Covid levels increase to the point of shifting our color zone, we will not need to close unless very specific criteria is met. This leaves students, staff and the community at risk. Is it worth it to rush? Our neighbors to the North and the South of us have decided to take it slow, planning a return in Late November and even January. I see no reason for us to rush to be the "first" to return, even though we were the "first" to go out. We need to consider that flu season is nearly upon us and many people may have weakened immune systems, as a result. This will open the door for additional vulnerability to families for the virus. Personally, I have experienced the impact Covid can have on a family when a loved one gets sick from this horrible disease. It is no joke, all members of the family are compromised and impacted - sick or not. Please consider that waiting a few weeks to guard student and staff safety is worth it. After all, a vaccine is expected in a few months. Consider the following: * Supports have been put in place to prevent barriers that might be interfering with the student's regular participation in distance learning. Internet providers and the school district have provided free Wifi service to many needy students, Chromebooks have been passed out, hard copies of assignments have been made available for students and Office Hours support is provided daily. Small group assessments, volunteer cohorts for EL Learners and Special ED students have started on many campuses. * The majority of students have developed a routine for online instruction. Wouldn't it be better to wait until January when we return from winter break? This way we do not disrupt learning in the middle of a semester, especially for our younger students. * We have already experienced incidents of Covid on some campuses. Just this week, a staff member from my campus called me after she tested positive for Covid. She shared that parents and students come on campus without masks for registration. What assurances can we have that mandates will be followed on reopening? No one wants to be the police and monitor this situation. I believe by waiting until the numbers are at a more reasonable level, we can better assure the safety of students, staff and the community. Thanks for listening. Please keep my name out of the conversation as this is a hot topic for many on both sides of the issue. Respectfully submitted, [REDACTED] RSP and Dept. Lead

10/8/20 12:57:35

Dear MVUSD Board Members: This is [REDACTED], and I teach Math at [REDACTED]. I have been teaching in the district since the year 2000. All four of my children have gone through all levels of the MVUSD, and we have been thoroughly pleased with the education they received and the connections they have made. I know you will be meeting tonight about plans to bring our students back to school. I am excited for the possibility of getting our elementary school kids back to class, but somewhat disappointed by what we are thinking of for our high school students, which is my arena. As important as it is for the Elementary students to return in some manner, I want you to know that it is equally important for our high school students as well. As we have been in Distance Learning, I personally have seen lower grades, social anxieties, and a feeling of helplessness from my students who want to be back and just miss being at their school and seeing other people. Our grades across all three high schools are suffering in this model, kids are finding out that they can easily cheat their way through curriculums, and there is just a general anxiety that is not doing anyone any good. Several students have either moved to a different kind of schooling (private schools, Learn 4Life), and others are leaving our community to head to states where they can be in school (Idaho, Utah). One student actually wrote to me and talked about how depressed they were not seeing anyone and being totally alone: "as much as I try, I know I will never be able to have good grades like I used to. So, will I keep trying? Sure. Is it worth it? I don't know, so far nothing's changed. Am I too far behind? Yes. Do I want to stay in bed all day? Yes." (I did have permission to use this, and with the help of our counselors, the student is staying with me in my class and hanging in there). It seems that the easy thing would be to keep them at home for the rest of the semester. However, I would like to encourage you to strongly consider a model where we can return our high school students to their campuses, in one form or another, before that. The UCI Health system sent out a memorandum in August asking if kids could go back to school safely. Here are some of the main points they made that would enable this to occur: -Practice physical distancing - Wear face masks - Be diligent about hand hygiene - Learn in disinfected classrooms and facilities (this is already being regularly done at [REDACTED] I am here every day) We can meet these suggestions. They go on to suggest some key features of a school safety plan, including: school - Daily checks of students and staff (this could be done by reading temperatures entering - Creating groups of students to be taught in groups of 10-15 (we can easily do that here in our classrooms) - Providing masks for staff and students to wear (again, could easily be done for those without) - Responding when someone develops COVID symptoms (we already have 2 COVID rooms ready here at [REDACTED]) - Providing PPE for aides to students with special needs who may not be able to comply. I am sure you already have some models that you are looking at. As one suggestion, my daughter is currently on campus at a college outside of Boston where they split their classes. On one day half the class is physically in class, while the other half stays home and watches online (like we do now!). Then at the next class meeting, those who were at home attend class, and those who previously attended stay home and watch online. I believe we could develop a similar plan to work at the high school level, getting students on campus for even limited days, to connect to their campus cultures, teachers, and friends. From what I have seen from working on our campus [REDACTED], I am sure there is some kind of model that would be safe and effective to get students back on campus, even if in a limited form. My other thought would be that if we are able to get high school students back on campuses, sooner rather than later, for even a short time at the end of this semester, we can evaluate how the model worked. If someone would develop COVID and need to be quarantined, we would have the three week winter break to allow for that! We could make any needed adjustments to be more effective in the second semester. And lastly, if I may, please consider the moral and mindset of the teacher population at this time. In no way can I speak for everyone, but many I have talked to, no matter what level they teach, are tired and morale is low. We got into teaching to work with students. Distance Learning is draining. Many teachers are working 12 - 14 hours a day. Not having students present, teaching to blank screens all day, and not seeing the engagement and interaction we would want to effectively educate our students, is exhausting. Many of our better students are experiencing grades far lower than what they can achieve, and have achieved when in school. Some kind of interaction would be far better than what we are accomplishing for our students now in this current learning model. Again, I realize that keeping the secondary schools in Distance Learning for the rest of the semester would be easy. But I see that we also have opportunities to open safely and efficiently to get these students back on campus. I believe it would be best for their psyches, their learning, and their connection to their school communities, done in a safe and protective way. Thanks for your consideration, and for running a great school district! [REDACTED]

10/8/20 1:05:00

10/8/20 12:47:00

Good Afternoon MVUSD Board of Education, I am writing to you as a concerned parent after seeing the plan our district has for reopening. Our kids need to be back in school ASAP and waiting until January for the secondary schools is absolutely unacceptable! By the time January comes around these kids will have been out of school nearly an entire year! The amount of learning loss is considerable and unmeasurable. Our kids will never get this time of their lives back. My youngest is in high school and I am fortunate to be a stay at home mom, so he is hanging in there academically but So MANY kids are not, they are failing classes and we know some of the obvious reasons.... * No Ambition * No Motivation * Depression * Working Parents * Lack of personal connection * Missing friends/socialization We have always been told to limit the screen time our kids have, and now for 2 whole semesters all the kids do is sit in front of a screen, all day long 5 days a week! High schoolers are trying to take 7 online classes, the concept is insane! Our kids are hurting mentally and emotionally. At this point there is WAY more harm being done to them and not from the virus. Please consider changing the plan and let our kids return to school ASAP, not just elementary but middle and high school too. We as families should have a say in our kids' education and in choosing to send them back or keep them virtual! What is the reason for wanting to wait until January? If it is due to the fear of covid, that is unrealistic because this virus is not going away. Or if the decision to wait is made based on the scheduling of staff and student, that is also unacceptable. Obviously scheduling conflicts with arises, however students would rather adjust their schedules than sit at home. What is different in January, a possible vaccine? Please, please help our high schoolers to get back in school NOW. Other districts are doing it, some larger than us, and we are better than them, so we need to do the same. Obviously there will be some families who choose to remain virtual but for the rest of us please give us the option of sending them back this semester! They miss school, their teachers, their friends, sports, activities, and their livelihood! Thank you so much for your time. Blessings, [REDACTED]

10/8/20 0:00:00

Dear Murrieta Valley Unified School board trustees, I am writing to advocate you take every necessary action to ensure our schools are open for in person instruction for all grade levels before the end of October. As the grown son of a public school teacher I watched my mom work countless hours in the classroom and at home to deliver what her students needed to grow. Like most of the teachers in our district the work for her was not simply a job, it was a calling. Our teachers and staff should be commended for how much they have accomplished with the virtual education program. I recognize the level of dedication and work that goes into developing and executing an online curriculum. However, there are certain educational objectives that simply can not be achieved with distance learning no matter how much hard work the educational team puts towards the challenge. Make no mistake teachers, the kids in our district are asking you to answer the call to return to in person instruction. Additionally, as an Emergency Physician who has cared for numerous patients with COVID-19 disease, I recognize the seriousness of this pandemic. It needs to be taken seriously. In person instruction decisions understandably must be weighed using data. We must also recognize our kids are facing many additional challenges in our district beyond just this virus. The loss of educational opportunity is a real threat as well. As a parent I appreciate that there is no mitigation plan that can remove all risk involved with a return to school. Undoubtedly our kids and staff will be experiencing a new learning environment once they return to school due to public health needs. However, it is time to return. Please mitigate the risk as best as you reasonably can and immediately open the schools for all grades. It is time. Parents in our district will weigh the needs of their children against the risks of a return to in person instruction and make the right decision for their family and our community. Sincerely, [REDACTED]

10/8/20 0:00:00

Dear Board of Education, I have reviewed all the details of the efforts the district is putting in place to try to mitigate the risk of spreading Covid-19 in our classrooms. However, I cannot but notice that a major factor in the spread of Covid-19 will not be addressed. I am referring to the fact that there is no proper ventilation in our classrooms. The CDC reported that the virus "can remain suspended in the air and drift more than 6 feet, and officials emphasized the importance of indoor ventilation. It also added singing and breathing to the ways the virus can go airborne." (The Associated Press Health and Science Department, October 5, 2020) The district support center has willingly shared with me a letter written by Dufoe Consulting Engineers, inc., who evaluated the schools HVAC system capabilities (filtration/capacity and airborne contaminants layoff). The closing statement in this letter says, "We realize we have offered no guidance on how to safely put the students back into the classrooms. We do not see a feasible solution to simply altering system operations to accommodate safety. If it were possible, it would have been our first recommendation. Common sense and protocols for preventing ill persons from being in the environment, and sanitation will be the best defense. Similar to what is being employed by our healthcare workers in this trying time." This statement is extremely troubling to me in several ways: 1. There will be no testing provided by the district. We will rely on an honor system of self checks by families and staff. 2. It is scientifically proven many people, especially children, can be asymptomatic and yet be super spreaders. 3. There is no way you can prevent a sick person from entering a classroom. 4. We will not even come close to the measures healthcare workers take to prevent the spread of the virus. 5. An air filter grade MERV 14 and above is recommended to capture the particles of concern, yet the filters used in our classrooms are MERV 9. 6. This is even more concerning for grades 2 and below where masks are encouraged, but not required. Simply put, our classroom environments do not have proper ventilation or filtration to prevent this deadly airborne disease from spreading within the classroom and the entire pod, which could potentially house one hundred people at a time, if we had half the students present. Is the district going to be transparent about this major risk factor? Will families and staff return to the classroom willingly knowing that nothing has or will be done to mitigate the risk posed by the lack of proper ventilation and filtration? I feel our district is pushing the return to the classrooms prematurely and it is very possible we will slide back to a purple status next week. Even returning when we are at red (substantial risk) doesn't seem to be a sensible choice. Why not wait until we are at least orange or yellow? Most districts around us are not considering reopening until possibly January, which would make more sense in many ways. Returning to the classrooms now is not a matter of if, but when, someone will be affected or even killed by this virus. Thank you for your time and consideration, [REDACTED] Second Grade Teacher and Parent

Distinguished Board Member, October 7, 2020 I am writing today to let you know of the concern that I have, not only for myself, but for students and their families about returning to in person instruction based on the proposed plan put out by the district. Currently, I work in the Murrieta Unified School District as an elementary mild/moderate special education teacher in a self-contained classroom environment and I have family members who work and attend school in the district, as well. First, I strongly believe that it is a mistake for the district to be sending young children TK 2ndgrade level who cannot be expected to wear masks back to school. I am well aware of just how challenging it will be for these little humans to follow all the guidelines needed to remain safe and to keep socially distant from their classmates at school without a high level of supervision and support. One of these tiny humans is my 6-year old grandson who is in the first grade here in the Murrieta district. It is not easy for him to wear a mask for long periods of time, he often forgets to keep his hands away from his mouth or nose, and he needs reminders to wash his hands. This is a huge concern, especially after learning evidence that children spread the virus and yet many of them may not wear masks while at school and they will likely struggle to follow other guidelines of social distancing, as well. As a special education teacher, I realize the great need that my own students have to receive academic instruction that is specially tailored to meet their needs, and I am doing everything I can as their teacher to support them and help them continue to make growth towards meeting their goals, while in a safe environment. Honestly, I am thrilled to report that most of the students in my class have adjusted well to this online platform, including learning the routines and procedures of our virtual classroom. They are receiving small group instruction in a virtual format from 8:00-11:45 AM every day, and with the support instructional aides and parents, this is working. For a few, there are technology and other issues that we have been challenged to work through, yet, we have been able to get most issues worked out. Our goal is to bring our students back to school. Yet, we need to have a safe and practical approach for the return of staff and students. It does not make sense to bring students back into a hybrid model in mid-November for several reasons. First, I have concerns for some students with high levels of needs who may not be able to maintain social distancing due to behavior or other concerns. Is there a proposed plan to address situations with students who are have struggles with behaviors where social distancing may not be possible? I hope that this will be given some consideration because it that certain staff members and teachers will be at a much higher risk rate of contracting this virus from their students than others. The plexiglass barriers will not be a sufficient type of protection for some students. With a focus a practical approach, students work best if they have a continual and regular schedule. When students come back on campus, the first 2-3 weeks will be focused on teaching classroom expectations and procedures, where academics are not going to be the focus. We have taught them the procedures for virtual instruction, but it will be different when it is in the classroom. With one week on, followed by a week off for Thanksgiving break and then three weeks of school before winter break, I am very concerned that much of our time at school will be focused on learning these new procedures. This includes having to review and reteach these procedures upon returning from the three week-long winter break. It is not practical or safe. I would highly recommend that we consider not coming back before January. It will not be beneficial for our students or the staff. Bringing children back on campus now is only going to put everyone in our community at much higher risk of spreading the virus. I anticipate that you have been updated and briefed on the most recent scientific data on COVID for our city and for the county and can see the number of cases has been rising in Riverside County. It was very concerning to learn that Riverside County has ranked 11th in the country for the highest number of cases. Furthermore, it appears that Murrieta Unified is one of very few districts that is considering bringing students back onto campus so soon. I thank you very much for taking the time to read my concerns this evening and I ask that you give your utmost care and attention to making this decision, as the outcome of the vote you cast may have a greater impact on your community than you even realize at this moment. Respectfully, [REDACTED] Special Education Teacher Murrieta Valley Unified School District

10/8/20 12:07:16

To whom it may concern: Please consider children of all ages to return to school in-person immediately. Children's academic, social, emotional, and physiological health and well being is in danger when continuing with doing school at home. I have three children who are miserable and depressed causing mental health and physical health issues due to the children's heavy load doing school independently at home. While virtual learning is a much smoother plan using Canvas than distance learning as we all experienced in Spring; the children are suffering the most and need to return in-person to school immediately! Thank you.

10/7/20 5:33:59

Please consider children of all ages to return to school in-person immediately. Children's academic, social, emotional, and physiological health and well being is in danger when continuing with doing school at home. I have two children who are both miserable and depressed causing mental health and physical health issues due to the children's heavy load doing school independently at home. While virtual learning is a much smoother plan using Canvas than distance learning as we all experienced in Spring; the children are suffering the most and need to return in-person to school immediately! As a two parent working family, we are begging you- for our children's sake. Thank you.

10/7/20 17:10:44

My name: [REDACTED] On behalf of two of my kids ages 12 and 9. Please consider children of all ages to return to school in-person immediately. Children's academic, social, emotional, and physiological health and well being is in danger when continuing with doing school at home. I have two children who are both miserable and depressed causing mental health and physical health issues due to the children's heavy load doing school independently at home. While virtual learning is a much smoother plan using Canvas than distance learning as we all experienced in Spring; the children are suffering the most and need to return in-person to school immediately! As a two parent working family, we are begging you- for our children's sake. Thank you.

10/7/20 17:00:58

I'm writing to express my concerns in regards to the school year of 2020-2021. I've been a Murrieta resident for the last 11 years. We are a military family who moved to Murrieta for the excellent community and schools. I'm seriously disappointed that our school district has not moved forward to open schools. Riverside numbers have dropped. Murrieta numbers are low. Why are our schools still closed? I'm good with a slow integration of a hybrid option that this school board had talked about before. What happened to that plan? Schools have been closed since the spring of 2020 and my kids are not getting the quality education online. The online tutor is not acceptable. I'm respectfully voicing for our school district to move forward in opening back up the high schools. We need to remember that physical health includes mental health as well. This school district can put in safety measures so school can resume. Give parents a choice. This is frustrating as a parent to see so many students in the community at parks, the malls, various establishments, and the grocery stores but our schools are closed. I'm very concerned about the decisions the Murrieta school district is making about my children's education. Please we want our kids back in school. Thank you, [REDACTED]

10/7/20 7:40:17

Hello! I'm writing this email with a broken heart for our children and especially my own. I hope that my email is read during your board meeting. Although I am sure you as a district can not base your decision solely on what us parents are wanting I think it's so important to still hear my thoughts and feelings. I am devastated for my children! This is beyond not ok! I currently have 3 boys at home that I'm helping with Distance learning and to say it's a daily struggle is an understatement. I'm brought to tears on a daily as I watch my kids try and sit at a computer screen for hours trying to follow along and listening to them tell me how much they miss being at school and seeing their friends. There are many days that I want to tell them to just log off their computer screens and get outside and play and enjoy their lives without the stress of feeling like they are falling behind because they are not getting that one on one time with their teachers. My oldest is in the 8th grade with an IEP. As you can imagine, he needs that support in a classroom setting. This is such a crucial year for him as he will enter High School next year and needs all the resources he can get to succeed. Distance learning will not get him to that place so I beg you to consider getting back into class, please! My middle child is in 3rd grade. This is also a very important year as 3rd grade is a year of reading and writing. The work load for him is becoming so tough and he's also struggling and getting behind. There are days he's sitting at his desk for hours in frustration. This is not right!!!!!! My youngest child started Kindergarten this year, Kindergarten is supposed to be fun! This is not fun for mine! He was so excited to start Kindergarten and be a big kid like his 2 older brothers. But, it's opposite of that right now. Instead he's in tears trying to pay attention through a computer screen. He doesn't understand and it's heartbreaking as a parent to watch. I'm trying my best as a parent to help my kids be successful under these circumstances but I'm starting to feel like I'm failing them by not being able to give them the guidance they need and deserve if they were in a classroom setting. I've had to quit my job to tend to each of them. Think of all the parents that can't quit their jobs and their kids are all alone trying to navigate through Distance learning on their own, how awful and sad for these kids. Can you imagine the effects that this will have on these kids and the mental state they are in?! I'm in tears writing this thinking of how wrong this is that our kids can not be in school and our District has not come up with a better plan to get them back in school. We as a country are better than this!!! PLEASE I beg you to take everything I have said into consideration and get our youth back into school where they belong! Our kids deserve better! Lastly, I want to acknowledge the amazing work our teachers are doing. They have been so great! I don't blame them at all! They can only do so much and I can only imagine how hard this is for them. Sincerely, [REDACTED]

10/7/20 10:10:54

I'm writing to express my concerns in regards to the school year of 2020-2021. I've been a Murrieta resident for the last 11 years. We are a military family who moved to Murrieta for the excellent community and schools. I'm seriously disappointed that our school district has not moved forward to open schools. Riverside numbers have dropped. Murrieta numbers are low. Why are our schools still closed? I'm good with a slow integration of a hybrid option that this school board had talked about before. What happened to that plan? Schools have been closed since the spring of 2020 and my kids are not getting the quality education online. The online tutor is not acceptable. I'm respectfully voicing for our school district to move forward in opening back up the high schools. We need to remember that physical health includes mental health as well. This school district can put in safety measures so school can resume. Give parents a choice. This is frustrating as a parent to see so many students in the community at parks, the malls, various establishments, and the grocery stores but our schools are closed. I'm very concerned about the decisions the Murrieta school district is making about my children's education. Please we want our kids back in school. Thank you, [REDACTED]

10/7/20 7:40:17

To Whom it May Concern, I am a very concerned parent of a Murrieta Valley High School Junior. I am writing in hopes of persuading all school board members to actively push to get our students back in class and on campus as soon as the state allows. Please do not wait until January to allow secondary students back on campus! My daughter is very involved in school. She has played on the girls' volleyball team and has been in the leadership class since she was a freshman. She is now on the ASB Student council. She has had her share of health problems ; she has Crohn's disease. She had surgery last Thanksgiving break and was still able to focus and maintain straight A's. Now she is a shell of the person she used to be. Our kids are suffering mentally, physically and emotionally! How are our students supposed to get a quality education with getting less instruction, more work and less help? Our children need to learn, they need to be social and they need physical activity and interaction! As a parent I am willing to volunteer and give whatever of my time is needed to help these kids and I know many parents that feel the same way! I hope you all hear us parents just as loudly as you hear the union representatives, administrators and staff. We matter and the students matter the most. Please let your votes show that our students are indeed your top priority!

10/6/20 3:46:00

School has been upended since March with no opening in sight. My concern is for students who are off the grid, no parents to guide them at home, and those who need school as their sanctuary. What is the district doing to make sure these kids are learning, off the streets, and safe? Although, my children have personally thrived in distance learning, we cannot make this form of learning to be one size fits all. We need a hybrid system where families can have the option to be in school. It has been said many, many times-- mental health is just as important as physical health. Be there for ALL the students. They need you more than ever. Ivy Kirshberg mother of 3 - 1 special needs in HS, 1 in middle school, 1 in elementary

10/5/20 15:17:11

Mr. Kelley, Hello, this is [REDACTED]. I am encouraged to email you from friends in hopes that we could send our children to school once again. I have three children attending MVUSD. They are all very good students but online school has been very challenging for them as well as to me. As much as the district, schools, and teachers have been doing, there are still many problems. They cannot always use Canvas to turn in homework assignments and not all their "due" are showing up in the calendar. I am seeing "late" and "missing" work on all three children. Some of it has to do with the program and some of it is true. I am having to monitor 23 modules among three children. It is too much. I understand that it is not up to you to hold our kids back from returning to school but at the first opportunity that we are cleared from the county, please send our kids back to school. They need to learn not only the information from the books but from each other as well. The learning that you get from being in class with teachers and peers, is so much more important than the knowledge gained from text books. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, [REDACTED]

10/5/20 10:26:00

10/5/20 9:48:38

Hello MVUSD Board of Education, Please reopen our schools this month for all elementary, middle, and high schools students who want to return. I think you will find that the majority of families would still prefer the traditional model option for learning. Our students want and need to be back in the classroom. They also should continue to have live interaction with their teachers if there are days they can not attend in person. Let's not let a whole year go by with our children learning remotely from home. The teachers, administrators, and staff are doing an outstanding job, but please give the families who want to be back in school a chance to do so now! Thank you for your time and consideration,

10/1/20 12:45:00

To whom it may concern, (yes, I did write this) Kids have a survival rate from Covid of 99.997%, and adults under 50 are 99.98% according to the president most recently. Kids are also proven to not be the super spreaders that we were originally told about as well with it being extremely rare for children to transfer this to adults. For this we will sacrifice our kids lives and futures? I have spoken with many many parents about their children and what's going on. Not a single one has told me their story without telling me about severe depression being mentioned with many many requiring psychiatric and medical intervention. This is not the oddity, and I believe it is the majority in fact. Shopping stores and grocery chains can manage a higher risk demographic but schools cannot? If you think keeping schools closed or separating kids in a classroom truly separates them then you are delusional. Just like the person that goes to a restaurant and then is suddenly safe when they sit down. Kids have almost no risk from this disease and they are running around all over town because of this. Frequently involved with drugs and alcohol as they try to cope with the loss of their lives. Remember h1n1 that killed 1200+ children and infected and sickened 60 million people in the US that most did and said little or nothing about? Especially when most people over 65 had immunity while it killed 12000+ otherwise healthy younger people? Now We have the opposite with a health risk primarily for the old and sick and sacrifice kids and younger adults to depression, suicide, murder, domestic abuse, and child abuse. Get our schools open for in person education. If you have a higher risk or scared teacher then have them teach virtually the higher risk or scared parents kids and let the rest come back. There is truly blood on your hands if we do not get our schools open quickly

Murrieta California

9/30/20 3:40:26

Kids have a survival rate from Covid of 99.997%, and adults under 50 are 99.98% according to the president most recently. Kids are also proven to not be the super spreaders that we were originally told about as well with it being extremely rare for children to transfer this to adults. For this we will sacrifice our kids lives and futures? I have spoken with many many parents about their children and what's going on. Not a single one has told me their story without telling me about severe depression being mentioned with many many requiring psychiatric and medical intervention. This is not the oddity, and I believe it is the majority in fact. Shopping stores and grocery chains can manage a higher risk demographic but schools cannot? If you think keeping schools closed or separating kids in a classroom truly separates them then you are delusional. Just like the person that goes to a restaurant and then is suddenly safe when they sit down. Kids have almost no risk from this disease and they are running around all over town because of this. Frequently involved with drugs and alcohol as they try to cope with the loss of their lives. Remember h1n1 that killed 1200+ children and infected and sickened 60 million people in the US that most did and said little or nothing about? Especially when most people over 65 had immunity while it killed 12000+ otherwise healthy younger people? Now We have the opposite with a health risk primarily for the old and sick and sacrifice kids and younger adults to depression, suicide, murder, domestic abuse, and child abuse. Get our schools open for in person education. If you have a higher risk or scared teacher then have them teach the higher risk or scared parents kids and let the rest come back. There is truly blood on your hands if we do not get our schools open quickly

9/30/20 8:25:55

I saw that Riverside County has moved to the Red Level for the CoVid Blueprint program. My understanding is that if we remain here for two weeks without backsliding on our CoVid numbers - kids can go back to school. I am writing to tell you that my family 100% supports all students getting back to campus ASAP! My normally bright, energetic, socially balanced kids are but a shadow of who they were on March 12, 2020. Their desire to learn has been snuffed, they crave social interaction, and Classes via Zoom is an absolute joke! At this point we are doing the kids a disservice by forcing them to isolate and stay home. Please make the students, their education, and their well being the priority! If teachers don't want to teach in person, they can find another job. The federal government declared teachers "essential" and essential workers work! Essential workers interact with people to get their job done and teachers must do the same. The teachers have done all they can from behind the Zoom camera, but it is not enough - it does not replace the quality of instruction a student receives from in class attendance. Just today my sons English teacher took roll call and then dismissed the class after 5 minutes in logging in and my son doesn't have that class every day. What kind of nonsense is that teaching my son? I hope you will do whatever it takes to get the students back into the classroom as soon as possible.

9/30/20 20:16:06

I am at a loss of who to email??? I am a concerned parent and have been a Murrieta resident for 20 years - we moved out here to raise a family because of the high standard of the school district. I have 2 girls - one at Murrieta Valley HS and one at MESA HS - both 4.0 students, both in sports, both excelling at what they are doing - BUT - both missing and needing the in-person instruction and socialization. We are battling isolation and depression, we are battling weight gain from not practicing 5 days a week we are adapting and working through it - BUT they both want to be back to school - having a routine. They are making it work, but NEED some structure that school and in-person teaching provides. It creates a routine, it creates responsibility, a senior being able to finally drive to school - the stepping stones to college! They have heard that teachers are meeting and do not want to go back. I AGREE! If I could make my normal salary and work from home and be done at 11:45am - I would not want to go back either! Yes, they have office hours, but most have said if you do not schedule a time, they will not be available. Subs, that take attendance and then sign-off - how is that giving them the education they deserve? Maybe if they only work 1/2 their normal time, if salaries were cut - they would want to go back. OR, with virtual learning - one teacher can teach more kids - less jobs! My husband, finally went back to work - his counter part was let go - his territory has tripled, his travel time and cost has tripled - he is not complaining and thrilled to be back. But, he would make more as a teacher and have better benefits right now. Teachers posting that they went to a movie? Others - taking a work & play vacation and flying to a destination??? And, they express being concerned about in-person instruction??? HOW COULD IT BE ANY DIFFERENT TO TEACH FROM BEHIND A PLEXIGLASS? Safer than going to Costco, Home Depo, flying, a movie . . . We as parents, need to hear the district has a plan. NOT, we will go back in January. The federal government declared teachers are essential workers. Essential workers WORK - and they work face to face to get their job done. If teachers are too afraid to go to school and work then they need to find another job.... plenty of people are willing to do their job. I know many parents that would volunteer to help provide what teachers and coaches need - temperature checks, recording, etc. I personally will help clean or volunteer for any teacher to do what they don't want to do! Thank you - Megan Sollie 2 daughters at the HS level

Dear Members of the Board of Education, I am a concerned parent of two high school aged students within the MVUSD. I am writing to encourage you and the other school board members to actively push to get our students back in class and on campus, as soon as possible. Do not wait until next semester to allow secondary students back to campus. I know that we are not technically approved to go back to school just yet, we still need another week in the Red Tier without backsliding on our CoVid data. However, I want our kids to go back to school as soon as we are allowed to by the state. We have been closed for over 6 months now - a plan to get the kids back in class should have been in place a long time ago and it should just be a matter of putting it into action, NOT creating a plan at this stage! My husband asked the Superintendent about whether the teachers have been given their 10 business day notification that they are returning to class with students. Mr. Kelly did not answer the question. I want to be sure the teachers HAVE been given notice that we could go back to school as early as Oct. 6th if our Covid data remains steady and in the Red tier. Any time after we could get our kids back into class and choose not to do so is wasted educational opportunity and continued punishment for each and every student - a complete disservice to the students and our community. You have a duty to do what is best for each student within your district. You do not have a duty to bow down to Union demands, or concerns from the union. The federal government declared teachers are essential workers. Essential workers WORK - and they work face to face to get their job done. If teachers are too afraid to go to school and work then they need to find another job.... plenty of people are willing to do their job. If teachers want to continue working 4 hours a day via distance learning perhaps their pay should reflect that reduction in work. My two kids are honor roll students, actively involved with leadership/senate, sports, and service clubs. They are generally happy, good-natured, social, and well-adjusted kids. My kids love to learn. They are suffering immensely and are but a shadow of who they were on March 12, 2020. The kids are learning a fraction of what they would learn in class - just ask any student. They are going to retain a tiny portion of what little they do learn because it is only coming at them through the computer vs. multiple learning styles that would occur in person (visual, auditory, kinesthetic, read/write.) My son is taking AP Calc and AP Physics.... normally I would have paid for him to take the tests by this time - certain he would pass no problem. However, it is next to impossible to thoroughly teach these high caliber classes via distance learning with reduced instruction time. I am not blaming the teachers. I am saying classes need to be taught in person in order to do a great job. Kids need to be in school. Although my kids have been negatively impacted by not going to school, I consider our family lucky. I am not exaggerating when I say 5 of my close friends have confided that their kids have experienced: depression, excessive weight gain, suicidal thoughts (thankfully not attempts), mood swings, and behavioral issues. How can this be acceptable? It is not. Most people I know moved to Murrieta in part for two reasons - great schools and a safe community. The residents of Murrieta expect our schools to be educating our kids in person, on campus, as soon as allowed by the state. We expect our school board to put the students and their education first. If some students don't want to come to school because they are fearful - fine. But don't punish the rest of the students when science and data clearly support that kids are a low risk group. (Take for instance the recent outbreak in SD due to the university opening up - over 1,000 students tested positive for Covid19 and only 1 single student had to be hospitalized for a few days.) Please do what we all know is best for our students and get them back on campus as soon as possible - do not wait until next semester. I am not a screamer, I do not rant and rave. I am a 'doer' and if there is something I can do, anything I can do to help get the kids back to school - I am willing and able. If you need a mass group of parent volunteers to go get background checked so they can work the front gates at the schools to help temperature check students - let me know - I bet I could round up 40 parents willing to pay for the background fingerprinting and screening right now! You have an army of parents willing to help just call on us. Parents feel helpless watching their kids disintegrate in this social isolation and distance learning environment - we would love the opportunity to help. I hope you hear the parents just as loudly as you hear the union representatives, administrators, and staff. We matter too, and the students matter the most. Please let your actions and votes demonstrate that the students are indeed the top priority - your top priority! Sincerely, [REDACTED] Murrieta CA 92562 Cell Phone [REDACTED]

9/30/20 20:43:06

Remember h1n1 that killed 1200+ children and infected and sickened 60 million people in the US that most did and said little or nothing about? Especially when most people over 65 had immunity while it killed 12000+ otherwise healthy younger people? Please stop sacrificing kids to depression, suicide, domestic abuse, drugs, and alcohol from this school shutdown for a disease proven to represent little risk to younger people. The latest figure is 99.997 survival rate for 18 and under. Does that justify killing their lives and their futures? Thank you [REDACTED]

9/28/20 13:05:26